



THE INDIAN SOCIETY FOR ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS
ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18

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INTRODUCTION

The Indian Society for Ecological Economics (INSEE) undertook several initiatives during the year 2017-18. This report summarises all the activities in brief. Detailed reports of individual activities are available on the INSEE website (www.ecoinsee.org). This year marked a number of firsts:

1. INSEE received its own International Standard Book Number (ISBN)
2. The INSEE Journal *Ecology, Economy and Society* brought out its first issue and was also formally registered after due process with the Registrar of Newspapers of India (RNI).
3. Pre-conference Curtain raiser events held/organized in seven local institutions by INSEE peers.

A. The following training, research and dissemination activities were organised:

1. Ninth Biennial Conference titled: **Sustainability, Institutions, Incentives: Voices, Policies and Commitments**, held at the Kerala Institute for Local Administration, Thrissur, Kerala during 8-10 November 2017.
2. A pre-Conference workshop titled **Researching in Ecological Economics**, 7 November 2017.
3. A panel discussion to disseminate findings of the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on 9 November 2017.
4. A capacity building workshop titled **R for Ecological Economics**, 16-17 March 2018.
5. A lecture by Joan Martinez-Alier on 'Ecological Distribution Conflicts as Forces *for* Sustainability', co-organised with and at TERI School of Advanced Studies, on 4 April 2018.

B. The following publications were brought out during this period:

1. *Ecology, Economy and Society—the INSEE Journal*, the flagship open access, peer-reviewed, bi-annual journal,
2. *INSEE is Twenty: Looking Back, Thinking Ahead*, that chronicles INSEE's journey over the last two decades,
3. *Sustainability, Institutions, Incentives: Voices, Policies, and Commitments: Conference Proceedings* (INSEE), a compilation of selected papers from INSEE's Ninth Biennial Conference.
4. *Global Change, Ecosystems, Sustainability: Theory, Methods, Practice* (Sage publications), a compilation of selected papers presented in INSEE's Eighth Biennial Conference,



Participants, Speakers and Organisers of the Inaugural Session of Ninth Biennial Conference held at KILA, Thrissur, 8 November 2017.

A. EVENTS ORGANIZED

1. Ninth Biennial Conference titled: **Sustainability, Institutions, Incentives: Voices, Policies and Commitments** co-organized with and held at the Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA), Thrissur, Kerala during 8th to 10th November 2017.

A. (i) INSEE collaborated with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the Directorate of Environment and Climate Change of the Government of Kerala, and held a panel discussion to engage with the city of Thrissur.

(ii) Prior to Ninth Biennial Conference in Thrissur, Kerala curtain raiser events were organised in four Colleges (Vimala College, Dr John Matthai Centre, Sacred Heart College, and St Thomas College) and one University department (College of Forestry, Kerala Agricultural University; Academy of Excellence in Climate Change, Kerala Agricultural University). In each event, senior INSEE members engaged with the students on research issues of ecological economics.

B. Capacity building workshop 'Researching in Ecological Economics' offered training in designing questionnaires; sampling primary data from field surveys; operational challenges in implementation; and planning and execution of ecological economics research in tropical forests.

V K Ramachandran, Vice Chairman, State Planning Board, Government of Kerala delivered the Inaugural Address; Pavan Sukhdev, Founder-CEO, GIST Advisory, as the Chief Guest, delivered the keynote address titled 'Writing the accounts of Society and the Corporation as if Humanity and Nature mattered'. Jeena T Srinivasan, Joint Secretary, INSEE introduced the speakers and Joy Elamon, Director, KILA delivered the welcome address. The Presidential Address was delivered by Pranab Mukhopadhyay, President, INSEE and Nandan Nawn, Secretary, INSEE introduced the conference.

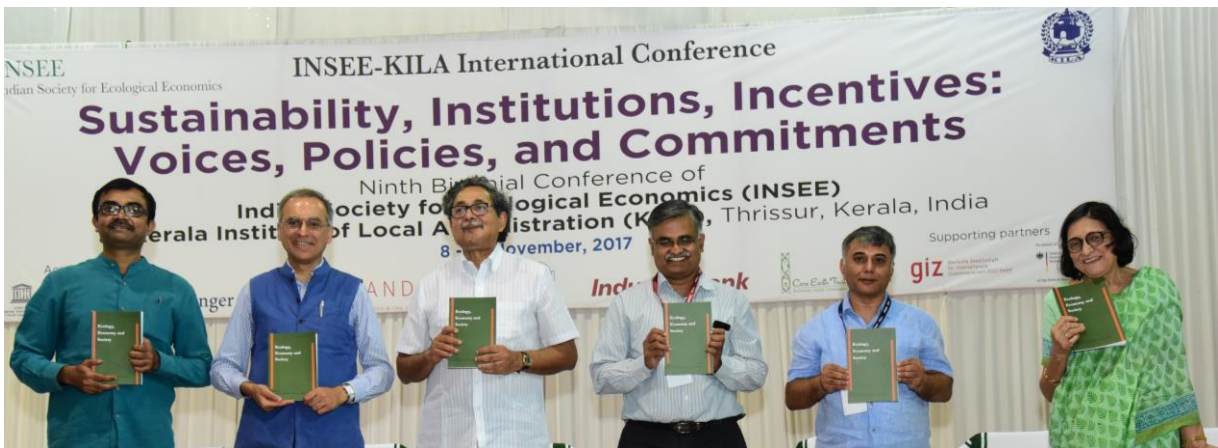
The INSEE book titled: *Global Change, Ecosystems, Sustainability: Theory, Methods, Practice* (edited by Pranab Mukhopadhyay, Nandan Nawn and Kalyan Das; 2017, Sage) was released at this inaugural. The INSEE journal, *Ecology, Economy and Society—the INSEE Journal* was also launched during this inaugural.

There were 8 panel discussions in the Conference. They are as follows:

- Citizen Science for ecology in India: experiences, opportunities, challenges
- IPCC panel: Understanding Climate Change — Science and Adaptation and Mitigation Options
- Environment, Climate Change, Biodiversity and Local Governance
- Marginal Ecologies: examining Sustainability on the peripheries of Nature and Society
- Setting the Conservation and Development Agenda for the Western Ghats, India
- Ecosystems and farmer well-being: PES as a tool in ensuring farmer welfare
- Is there a global Environmental Justice movement?
- Marine Fisheries resources and Technology: some Sustainability and Equity issues



Panel discussion titled 'Understanding Climate Change — Science and Adaptation and Mitigation Options' jointly organized with IPCC and Directorate of Environment and Climate Change of the Government of Kerala; from left: P Dasgupta, Govindasamy Bala, M N Murty, E Somanathan and Joyashree Roy



Top: Participants of Valedictory Session, INSEE Ninth Biennial Conference, KILA, 8-10 November, 2018

Middle: Joy Elamon speaking at the Valedictory Session of INSEE Ninth Biennial Conference; in the background from left: Sunny George, KN Ninan, Pranab Mukhopadhyay, Nandan Nann and Kalyan Das

Bottom: From left: Nandan Nann, Pavn Sukhdev, V.K. Ramachandran, Joy Elamon, Pranab Mukhopadhyay, Kanchan Chobra at the Launch of Ecology, Economy and Society—the INSEE Journal in the Inaugural Session

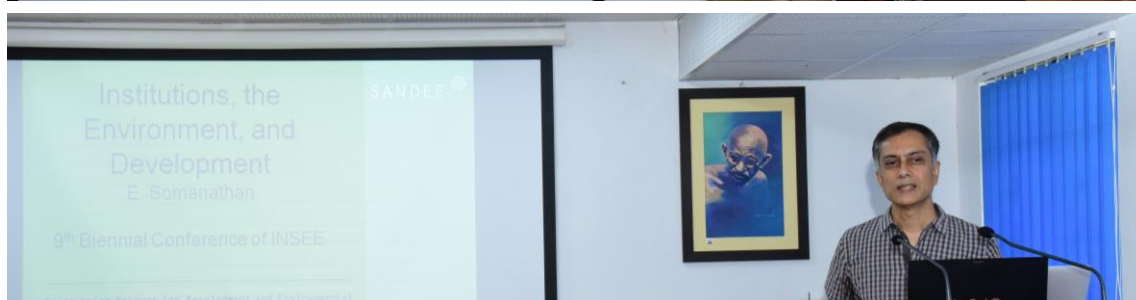


Panel discussions at INSEE Ninth Biennial Conference, KILA, 8-10 November 2018

From top: 'Citizen Science for ecology in India: experiences, opportunities, challenges'; 'Environment, Climate Change, Biodiversity and Local Governance'; 'Setting the Conservation and Development Agenda for the Western Ghats, India'; 'Is there a global Environmental Justice movement?'

There were four Keynote addresses. They are as follows:

- Estimating social time preference rate for India: declining discount rates for evaluation of climate change mitigation and other long gestation period investment projects [M N Murty]
- Coastal zone vulnerability and climate change: visible & not-so-visible threats [Susmita Dasgupta]
- Voting in the UN and the Inclusive Wealth Index: some thoughts [Anantha Duraiappah]
- Institutions, the Environment and Development [E Somanathan]



From top clockwise: M N Murty; Susmita Dasgupta; E Somanathan; Pavan Sukhdev; V K Ramachandran; Anantha Duraiappah.

Scientific Advisory Committee

Bina Agarwal	Pranab Mukhopadhyay
Mahadev G Bhat	(Chairperson)
Ramachandra Bhatta	M N Murty
Ramesh Chand	Harini Nagendra
Kanchan Chopra	Nandan Nawn
Kalyan Das	Bibhu Prasad Nayak
Saudamini Das	K N Ninan
Vikram Dayal	Manoj Panda
Nitin Desai	Balachandra Patil
Rohan D'Souza	Seema Purushothaman
Anantha Duraipappah	Brototi Roy
P S Easa	Joyashree Roy
Sunny George	Ramprasad Sengupta
Rucha Ghate	Amita Shah
Nilanjan Ghosh	Satheesh C. Shenoi
A Gopalakrishnan	Priya Shyamsundar
Haripriya Gundimeda	E Somanathan
Enamul Haque	Jeena T Srinivasan
Gopal Kadekodi	Nandini Sundar
Kavi Kumar	Bejoy K Thomas
Pushpam Kumar	Arild Vatn
Joan Martinez-Alier	

Local Organising Committee

Joy Elamon	K N Harilal
(Chairperson)	
Ramachandra Bhatta	Nandan Nawn
B S Corrie	(Organising Secretary)
Shyjan Davis	Bibhu Prasad Nayak
P Indira Devi	Balachandra Patil
P S Easa	Sushil Sen
Sunny George	Jeena T Srinivasan

Subthemes:

1. Ecosystems and Well-being
 - 1.1 Oceans, Forests, Mountains and Wetlands
 - 1.2 Resilience
 - 1.3 Valuation
 - 1.4 Management
2. Collective Action and Local Governance
 - 2.1 Community
 - 2.2 Institutions
 - 2.3 Transaction Costs
 - 2.4 Trust
3. Climate Change
 - 3.1 Science of Climate Change
 - 3.2 Agriculture & Food Security
 - 3.3 Extreme Events
 - 3.4 Paris Agreement and Marrakesh Proclamation
 - 3.5 Adaptation and Mitigation
 - 3.6 Technology
4. SDGs and Global South
 - 4.1 Gender & Ecology
 - 4.2 Inequality
 - 4.3 Environmental Justice
 - 4.4 Green Economy
 - 4.5 Waste and recycling
 - 4.6 Energy

(SDGs and the Global South) and 12 (across sub-themes). Based on the first round of blind peer review 112 paper authors were selected for submission of papers. Of the 108 papers submitted for the second round of peer review, 97 were selected. Of the papers presented, 52 papers were selected for publication in Conference Proceedings.

The conference was attended by 217 persons from 12 countries besides India: Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Germany, Israel, Mexico, Nepal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States of America.

During the conference the following workshops were organised:

- 'Strengthening capacity in coastal and marine biodiversity management' by GIZ;
- 'Writer's Workshop' was organised by Springer; and a session on
- Operationalising International Wealth Index managed by Field of View and UNESCO-Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP).

Conference participants were regaled by excellent performances by dancers of the Kerala Kathakali from Kalamandalam and musicians of the Bamboo Symphony Orchestra involving local artists.

The conference also hosted a photo exhibition titled ‘The City and the Farms – Agriculture in Peri-Urban Bengaluru’ in association with the School of Development, Azim Premji University.

A book exhibition-cum-sale was organized by Sage Publications.

The Conference received funding support from the many institutions and organization, besides Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA):

1. IndusInd Bank
2. National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD)
3. South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics
4. Care Earth Trust, Chennai
5. Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ)
6. Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI)
7. Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Education, Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP)
8. Centre for Economics, Environment and Society
9. Springer publications
10. Sage Publications
11. Azim Premji University
12. Department of Economics, Vimla College
13. Sacred Heart College
14. Saint Thomas College
15. Dr. John Mathai Centre of Department of Economics, University of Calicut
16. Academy of Excellence in Climate Change of KAU
17. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
18. Sponsors of Panel Discussions





From top: Writers' Workshop, by Springer; Strengthening capacity in coastal and marine biodiversity management by GIZ; Operationalising IWI for policy-making through a learning game by MGIEP



From Top: Photo exhibition titled 'The City and the Farms - agriculture in periurban Bengaluru' hosted by School of Development, Azim Premji University; Bamboo Symphony Orchestra; registration desk

2. A one-day pre-Conference workshop titled: **Researching in Ecological Economics** was held at Kerala Institute of Local Administration on 7th November, 2018. The objective was to provide an overview of doing Ecological Economics research – from collecting field data to using secondary data with multi-disciplinary teams. Resource persons included Susmita Dasgupta [World Bank] and Santadas Ghosh [Visva Bharati]. A total number of 31 persons attended the workshop. There was no participation fee for this workshop.



From top: Susmita Dasgupta taking a session in the pre-conference workshop; Santadas Ghosh conducting a session in the pre-conference workshop; a section of the participants

3. A panel discussion took place on November 9, 2017 as a part of knowledge dissemination sessions of the 9th INSEE Biennial Conference at Amrita School of Business, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham in association with IPCC and host institute. The panel members were three lead authors of the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC AR 5): E. Somanathan, Purnamita Dasgupta and Govindasamy Bala. They discussed the key findings from the report.



Participants, Speakers and Organisers of the panel discussion at Amrita University on 9 November 2017

4. A two day capacity building workshop titled **R for Ecological Economics** was held at TERI School of Advanced Studies on 16th and 17th March, 2018. The objective of the workshop was to provide hands-on experience to the participants on the uses of an analytical software, R, for researching in Ecological Economics. Vikram Dayal of the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi and Suresh Babu of Ambedkar University, Delhi were the resource persons. A total of 10 persons participated in this self financed workshop.



B. PUBLICATIONS

1. INSEE Journal

Inaugural issue of Ecology, Economy and Society—the INSEE Journal was published in April 2018, after registration of the journal with the Registrar of Newspapers of India.



Ecology, Economy and Society—the INSEE Journal Volume 1, Issue 1, April 2018		Fiscal measures when climate negotiations are not feasible Thomas Steiner	77
Contents			
EDITORIAL			
Ecology, Economy and Society – the journal of the Indian Society for Ecological Economics (INSEE) Kanchan Chopra			
COMMENTARY			
Institutional economics – the economics of ecological economics? Arild Vatn			
Global population size and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals Partha Dasgupta			
THEMATIC ESSAY			
On the normalization of dimensioned variables Deepak Malghan			
Democracy and the environment: an ecological economics research agenda Prakash Kashwan			
RESEARCH PAPER			
Health externality in terms of respiratory illness-related sick days due to air pollution: evidence from the open cast coal mining region of Odisha Tapaswini Nayak and Indrani Roy Chowdhury			
CONVERSATIONS: CLIMATE CHANGE			
Editorial Note Jagdish Krishnaswamy			
Climate change: the science Robert Watson			
Reflection on international climate diplomacy Nitin Desai			
CONVERSATIONS: FOREST CONSERVATION			
Editorial Note Vikram Dayal			
Revisiting canons and dogmas in the conservation-versus-human rights debate Asmita Kabra			
Reconciling rights of individuals with rights of wild species Ullas Karanth			
NOTES FROM THE FIELD			
The Andaman and Nicobar Islands are not an 'empty space' Pankaj Sekhsaria			
Views from below: the economics and politics of water in the Darjeeling Himalayas Deepa Joshi			
BOOK REVIEW			
Centre for Science and Environment, <i>State of India's Environment 2017</i> Dipan Roy			
Jairam Ramesh, <i>Indira Gandhi: A Life in Nanos</i> Radhika Krishnan			
M V Nadkarni, <i>Paribarantistakam</i> Sharachchandra Lele			
REPORT			
Duke Kunshan conference on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Citizenship, 22–24 May 2017, Kunshan, China Amata Barvikar			
Conference of the European Society for Ecological Economics (ESEE), 20–23 June 2017, Budapest, Hungary Julien-François Gerber			

This flagship publication of INSEE is an open access, bi-annual and peer reviewed.

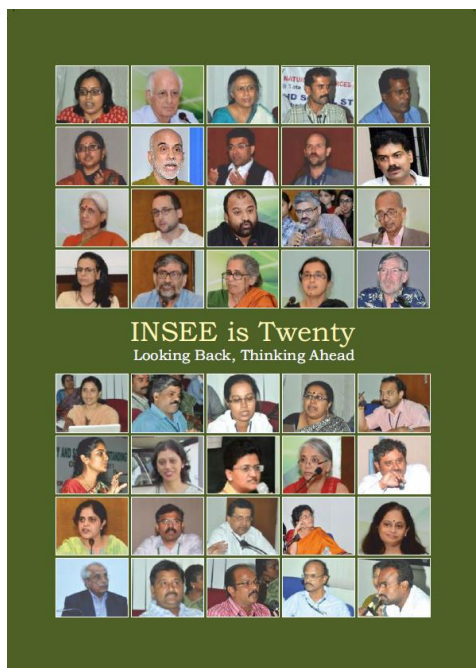
Its contents are available online at <http://ecoinsee.org/journal/>. It also hosts policies followed in the journal, submission guidelines, composition of Advisory and Editorial Board, etc.

The screenshot shows the website for 'Ecology, Economy and Society- The INSEE Journal'. The page includes the journal's title, ISSN, registration number, and a list of editorial board members. It also features a table of contents for Volume 1, Issue 1, Jan 2018, and a sidebar with 'Aims and Scope', 'Journal Policy', and 'Submission' information.

2. INSEE is Twenty: Looking Back, Thinking Ahead

A document was published celebrating INSEE's journey of two decades. It carries reflections by several INSEE members, a list of activities carried out by INSEE, list of its publications, list of organisations and individuals supporting it, composition of all the Executive Committee with a few photographs.

It is edited by Nandan Nawn [ISBN: 978-81-936058-1-3]

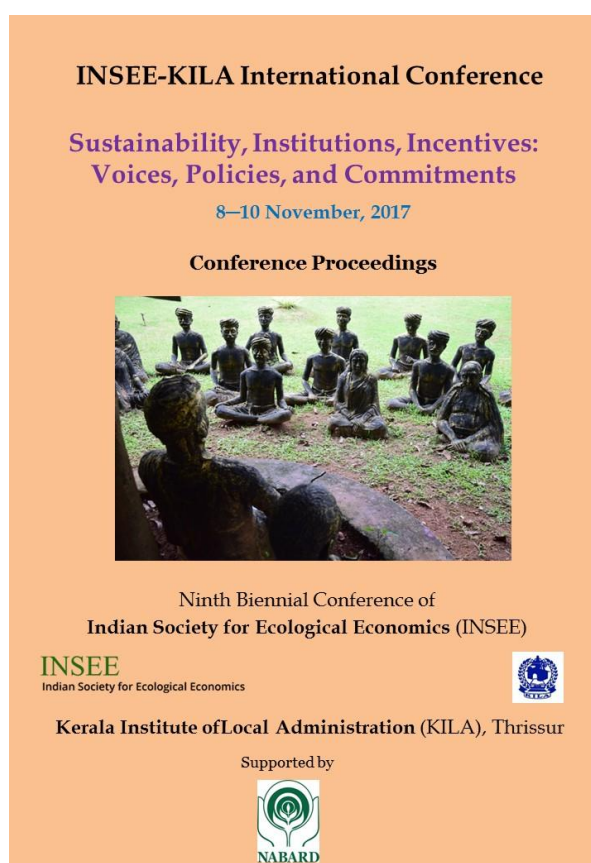


3. Conference proceedings:

A collection of 52 selected papers presented in the INSEE-KILA International conference was published in the form of Proceedings. The papers are divided into the following sections:

- Ecological Economic-Social systems
- Climate Change: impacts and adaptations
- Energy and material questions
- SDGs and the Global South
- Perceptions and Behavioural responses
- Institutions for Governance
- Livelihood

The Proceedings was published by INSEE with financial support from NABARD. It is edited by Nandan Nawn and Joy Elamon [ISBN: 978-81-936058-2-0]



4. Conference volume

The volume carrying selected papers presented in 7th INSEE Biennial Conference (Tezpur 2013) was published by Sage in August 2017. Copies were sent to the members.



B. OTHER MATTERS



ORIGINAL

1. Financial Support from ICSSR

INSEE's office was supported with a grant of Rs. One lakh from the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) in the reporting year 2016-17.

2. Registration of INSEE Journal

INSEE Journal has been registered with the Registrar of Newspapers of India. It bears the following number: DELENG/2018/75036. The application for International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) has been made already.

3. **ISBN:** INSEE has received the permission to publish books with its own International Standard Book Number (ISBN). Both the publications in the reporting year have been published with ISBN.

4. Membership of the INSEE

As on March 31, 2018, INSEE has 487 Life members, 10 Corporate Members, 02 ordinary member and 10 student members. The total membership thus stands at 509.

Executive Committee Members of INSEE (2016-2018)



Pranab
Mukhopadhyay

Department of
Economics, Goa
University

President



K N Ninan

Center for
Economics,
Environment and
Society,
Bengaluru

**Vice
President**



Nandan Nawn

Department of
Policy Studies,
TERI
University,
New Delhi

Secretary



Kalyan Das

OKD Institute of
Social Change and
Development,
Guwahati

Treasurer



Bibhu P.
Nayak,

Tata Institute of
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Jeena T
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P Balachandra

Department of
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Technologies,
Indian Institute
of Science,
Bengaluru

Member



Ramachandra
Bhatta

Emeritus Scientist
(Economics),
ICAR ,
College of Fisheries,
Mangalore

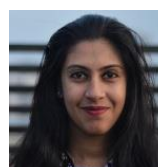
Member



Saudamini Das

NABARD Chair
Professor,
Institute of
Economic
Growth, Delhi

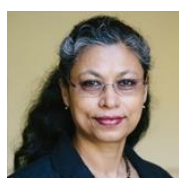
Member



Brototi Roy

PhD Candidate ,
ICTA, Autonomous
University of
Barcelona, Spain

Member



Joyashree Roy

Professor of
Economics
Jadavpur
University

Member



E. Somanathan

Economics and
Planning Unit,
Indian Statistical
Institute, New Delhi

Member



Bejoy K
Thomas

Centre for
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ATREE,
Bengaluru

Member

Sushil Kumar Sen
Office Manager

Surendra Kumar Thakur
Accountant

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