

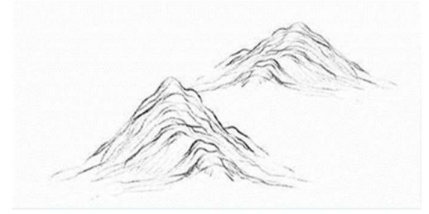
ANNUAL REPORT

2022-23

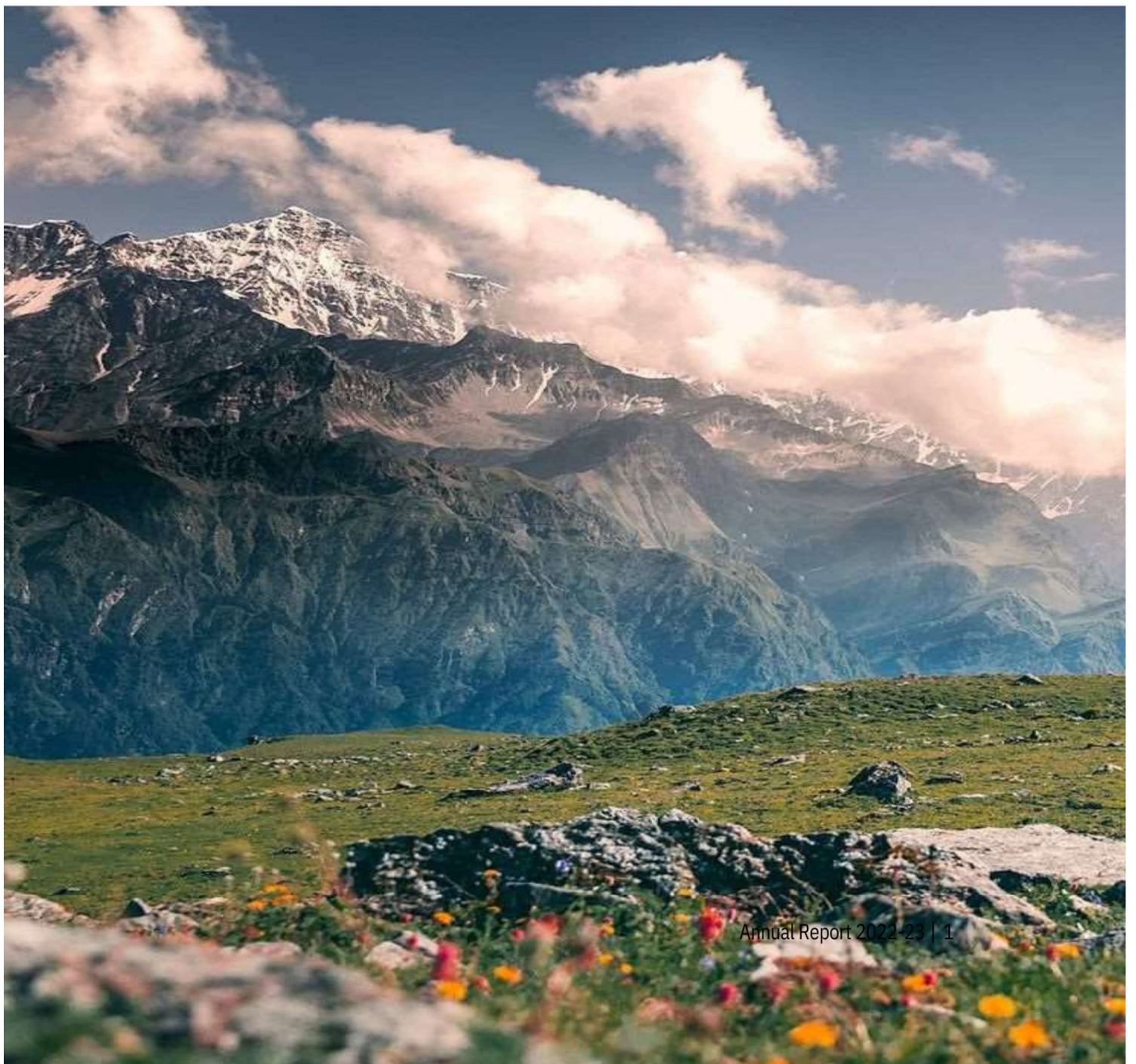


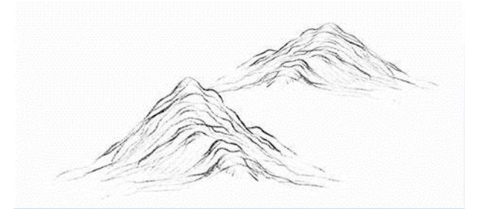
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
FORUM UTTARANCHAL





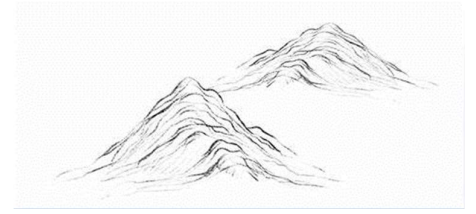
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FORUM UTTARANCHAL





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From the Desk of the Chairman, SDFU



I am pleased to present to you the sixth Annual Report of SDFU for the financial year 2022-23. It is my honor to share with you the progress, achievements, and highlights of our organization's performance over the past financial year. This year shall be commemorated as the transition of leadership from my predecessor, Dr. Rajendra P Dobhal, who diligently served as the Chairman of SDFU for an esteemed tenure of nearly five years and six months (2016-2022). I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Rajendra P Dobhal and his dedicated team, who have earnestly exerted their efforts towards the establishment of the foundation of SDFU during this significant period.

SDFU was conceived by founder Late Dr RS Tolia in March 2016 and work on his concepts and vision. During the last year SDFU councilors have met several times and discussed and debated issues and challenges confronting the state of Uttarakhand. Consequently, several workshops and brainstorming sessions were held giving rise to the expert's deliberations on the possible sustainable activities for the Uttarakhand Hills. SDFU has played a vital role in voicing the challenges of Climate Change mitigation, role of CBOs in management of forests, plastic waste managements and their possible solutions. I am proud to say that the deliberations held during the UNEP Stakeholder closing workshop and 5th R S Tolia forum in Dehradun, which bring out the state's issues in front of the entire Himalayan community. Similarly, the forum will be taking up specific issues and provide knowledge input and advocacy to achieve its mission goal.

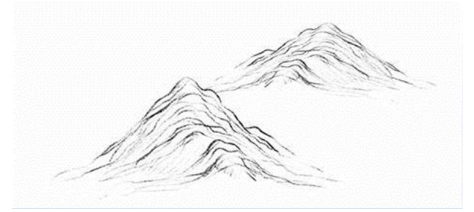
I would like to express my gratitude to all councilor/ members for their unprecedented support and guidance to the SDFU.

We look forward to a prosperous future together.

SHRI STS LEPCHA

Chairman, SDFU

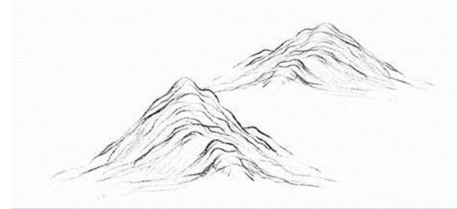
& Retd. PCCF, Government of Uttarakhand



PREFACE

Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand is a civil society-led network platform with the mission to mainstream the concerns of Uttarakhand and its people in the development dialogue of the state. It functions as a platform to integrate the knowledge and experiences of multiple stakeholders working across Uttarakhand and uses this to inform and influence policy at the state level. SDFU's mission is to integrate the knowledge and experience of multiple stakeholders working on diverse issues across Uttarakhand. Mountain independently, this is then used to inform and influence policy, at the state level.

SDFU aims to create a platform where these stakeholders integrate the collective knowledge and experience through an informed dialogue on identified themes for catalyzing action for sustainable development. Translating the dialogues further, our objective is to generate action on such themes through informed, relevant policies and action on the ground. SDFU is a decentralized and voluntary initiative of individual members and institutions and is affiliated with the Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI) as the state chapter organization for Uttarakhand, which is a civil society network formed in 2011 with the objective of providing stakeholders from the states of the Indian Himalayas region, a platform to discuss issues related to mountain development.



Workshop on Plastic Waste Management in Hills and Tourist destinations of India, 30th September 2022, Hotel Madhuban, Dehradun



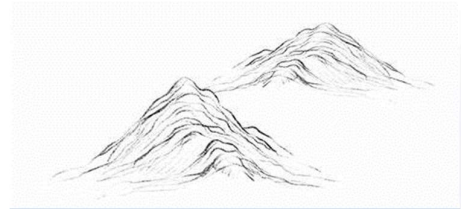
On 30th September 2022, a one-day workshop was organised at hotel Madhuban in Dehradun by IMI and SDFU in collaboration with UNEP and TERI as a concluding event of UNEP supported program – CounterMEASURES II. In 2020, UNEP, with the support of the

government of Japan conceived a program on the issue of marine plastic litter and the work undertaken by IMI and SDFU was part of the second phase of the program that focused on plastic litter in the Ganges and Other major river systems of Asia. Three policy documents – Policy Framework Paper for Plastic Waste Management in the Indian Himalayan Region, Stakeholder Mapping Report for Indian Himalayan Region (with special focus on the Ganga Basin in Uttarakhand) and Literature Review for Plastic Waste Management in the Indian Himalayan Region – emerged from the collaboration between IMI, SDFU and UNEP.

This workshop brought into focus work undertaken by multiple agencies and individuals on the burning issue of plastic waste management crisis in the Indian Himalayan Region with a focus on Uttarakhand. The workshop was inaugurated by Shri Saurabh Bahuguna, Cabinet Minister, Government of Uttarakhand and attended by a host of experts, academicians, practitioners, elected representatives of Urban Local Bodies, IAS and IFS officials along with the functionaries of IMI and SDFU.

IMI Focus on Plastic Waste Crisis

Plastic Waste management has been one of the focal areas of action for IMI and its state partners such as SDFU for over two years through its Himalayan Clean Up initiative that is part of the larger Zero Waste Himalaya initiative. Sustainable Mountain Development Summit is an annual flagship program of IMI and in its tenth summit in 2021 at Darjeeling



waste management was a focal issue that was discussed at length in the Mountain Legislators Meet and resulted in a declaration made by the elected representatives of various Indian Himalayan States. IMI advocates for mountain specific policies and interventions for solid and plastic waste management in the Indian Himalayan Region and this will also be its focus in the upcoming SMDS XI at Leh, Ladakh.

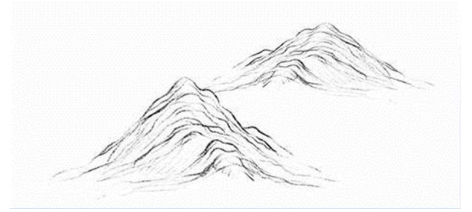
Setting the tone

Prior to the start of the workshop a film – Troubled Waters – on the endangered Ganga Dolphin was screened to set the mood and tone of the workshop. Ganga is the most revered river in India, a billion people depend on the Ganga basin for their life and livelihoods and yet it is the second most polluted river in the world. The Ganga dolphin is on the verge of extinction and many other aquatic animals are also endangered. While the Government of India has a special program – Namami Gange – focussed on the cleaning of the river, another issue that is intrinsically linked to the pollution of the river is that of increasing plastic pollution and challenges in its management

Inaugural Session

The workshop started with a welcome address by Shri STS Lepcha, Retd PCCF and Chairman of SDFU and was followed by setting of the context for the deliberations by Shri P.D. Rai, President of IMI who said “Ten years ago I would not have believed such a workshop possible but awareness on the issue is building up as it affects all our lives”. President IMI focused on the challenges of waste management in the mountains - difficulty of waste collection due to the terrain and topography, cost of transportation, limited availability of land and the belief that rains wash it all away. Talking about the possible solutions he said that IMI is taking the issue to all the mountain states through its annual summits and Mountain Legislators Meets in order to build consensus

175 countries adopted a resolution titled “End Plastic Pollution: Towards a Legally binding instrument”. The resolution established a mandate that calls on countries to develop an instrument to address plastic’s full, toxic life cycle: from the extraction of fossil fuels to production to end of life.



among the elected representatives and build it into a political agenda because unless solid and plastic waste management becomes a political agenda it will not lead to effective solutions. To this end he reiterated the importance of amendments in the EPR for its effective implementation in the Indian Himalayan Region.

This was followed by an in-depth presentation by Shri Sumit Sharma from UNEP who could not join the workshop physically due to health reasons but was present online from Delhi. The gist of his presentation-Action Against Marine Plastic Litter and Plastic Waste – is as under:

- Marine litter is a global concern as 9-14 million tons of plastic ends up in oceans annually and is projected to triple by 2040. There will be more plastic in oceans than fish by 2050.
- 80% of marine litter originates on land and travels to the oceans through the rivers and drains.
- Globally only 10% of the plastic waste is recycled. India generates 55 million tons of urban municipal solid waste annually of which only 37% is treated.
- Macro plastics convert into micro plastics, become part of water and salt, contaminate the soil and become part of the human food chain. According to one study humans ingest 5 grams of plastic every week; the size of a credit card.
- Globally 9 billion tons of plastic has been produced since 1950 and while governments mull a ban the cost of cleaning plastics from the oceans is estimated at 6-19 billion dollars.
- Global plastic market in 2020 was estimated at 580 billion dollars and the losses of marine natural capital due to plastic pollution are estimated at 2,500 billion dollars per year.
- Plastic kills over one million marine animals annually and it is killing the Ganga Dolphin too bringing them on the verge of extinction – only 3500 survive. 55% of the fisherfolk have reported sighting of animals other than fishes caught in abandoned fishing nets in the Ganges.



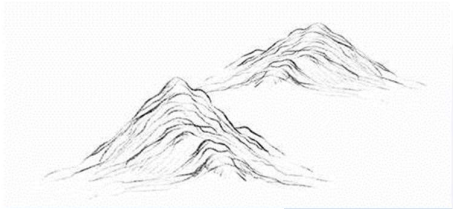
- Illegal open dumpsites with high plastic waste composition have been observed in National Parks and their perimeters in India. Statistics from National Parks show 100% occurrence of plastics in dung samples.
- Plastics include multi layered plastics (MLPs) used in food packaging, tobacco sachet, detergent sachets, bottles, cutlery, laminated paper plates, poly bags and these are leaking into the Ganga through drains and dump sites along the river banks.
- Global initiatives on controlling marine litter are increasing and the UN Environment Assembly Resolutions have played an important role in this. Multiple Resolutions have been passed and a new resolution agreed at 0044hrs on 28th February 2022 to “End Plastic Pollution: Towards an International Legally Binding Instrument”. The resolution was adopted by UNEA on 2nd March 2022.
- India has been proactive in taking up initiatives for plastic waste management and enacted the Solid Waste Management Rules in 2016 followed by amendments in 2018 and 2021. The EPR notification was made on 6th Oct 2021. In addition to these the Government of India also has flagship programs such as the Swachh Bharat Mission 1.0 and 2.0 and Namami Gange. There is a National Task Force for elimination of SUPs and implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules. In February 2022 the government issued notification for Producers of Packaging to collect their waste, re-use and recycle.
- UNEP supports the Government of India through its CounterMEASURES and India-Norway Marine Pollution Initiative supported by the Governments of Japan and Norway respectively. UNEP support is offered through development and implementation of national/regional plans, technical and policy support, awareness generation and discussions through various public forums.
- The hilly/mountain regions have

Waste Scenario in the IHR

As per a report from MoEFCC, 2018 the Himalayan States generate 15 Lakh MT of waste annually and only 5.4 Lakh MT of this waste is processed.

The Himalayan Clean Up data, 2021 reveals that MLPs form 65.9% of plastic waste while tetra packs constitute 3.3% and PET bottles 8.9% of the waste.

Top 10 Companies that Pollute the IHR PepsiCo India; Hindustan Coca Cola; ITC Limited; Britannia Industries Pvt Ltd; Hindustan Uniliver Limited; Perfetti Van Melle; Mondelez India Foods Pvt Ltd; Parle Agro Pvt Ltd; Nestle India and Dabur India Ltd.



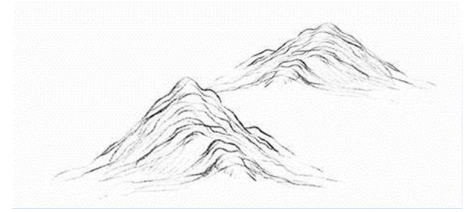
many constraints in managing the waste – difficult terrain for collection and processing, higher costs of waste management, limited availability of land, presence of a large floating population (tourists), vulnerability to natural hazards and low temperatures that prohibit the use of many available technologies for waste management.

- The solutions to these constraints may be seen as – removal of plastics by effective implementation of SUPs Ban, preparation of an effective waste management plan and investment in waste management projects, involvement of business and industry in creating solutions and incentives for entrepreneurs to make alternative packaging materials.

Shri H.C. Semwal (IAS) Secretary, Women and Child Development (and additional numerous department) brought the focus to the rural areas of Uttarakhand where solid and plastic waste management is rapidly turning into a crisis. He emphasized that resources are required for building an infrastructure for waste management and that the producers should pay for it. The Gram Panchayats need resources to manage waste and this should become a part of their annual budget.

Shri Roshan Rai from DLR Prerna, Darjeeling and IMI Councilor made a presentation on the ‘Draft Recommendations on Plastic Waste Management in the IHR States’ emphasizing the following:

- Change the narrative on Waste Management – The Producers have to be made responsible.
- Recognise the fact that plastic pollution is mainly caused by over production and use of plastic specially the non-recyclable kinds and these are the most problematic in waste management.
- Expand the EPR to advocate for sustainable design solutions for packaging and make EPR mandatory for brands as a pre-requisite for sale within a state.
- Make the ban on SUPs more effective – implement the law.
- Promote waste reduction efforts at individual, community and state levels through focussed interventions.



- Initiate sustained awareness and education campaigns and Encourage formulation of bye-laws that include mandatory garbage collection fee and promote local foods and cultures instead of packaged processed foods and drinks.
- Empower Grassroots democracy – ward level committees and stakeholder participation.
- Implement and make segregation at source mandatory and Promote home and community composting and set up decentralised material recovery facilities.
- Initiate pilot programs and leverage Extended Producer Responsibility – Redesign, take back, Buy back.
- Develop and strengthen linkages between scrap collectors, scrap dealers and recycling units.
- Policy Recommendations for IHR – Focus on closing the plastic tap; Recognise Mountain sensitivities/fragility; Decentralised Approach in Waste Management; Make it People Centric and Develop Collaboration – interdepartmental, interinstitutional

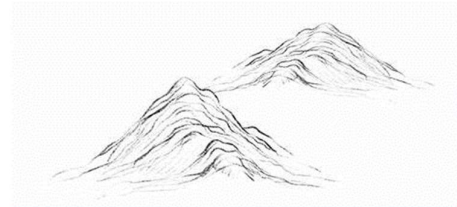
Shri Sunil Uniyal ‘Gama’, Mayor of Dehradun stated that plastic pollution is a critical issue and that awareness about the issue would lead to its solution. He shared some initiatives undertaken for the purpose before Corona - formation of a 50k.m. human chain in Dehradun, awareness in schools reaching over one lakh children. He said that such

initiatives led to reduction in plastic pollution but then the Corona Pandemic struck and all was lost. Therefore, he believes there is a need to pick up the threads and start all over again. He commended the work done by Waste Warriors and Shri Anoop Nautiyal and said “people should learn from them because awareness would lead to great reduction in plastic pollution.

Create Awareness about plastic pollution among the stakeholders.

Hold the Producers of Plastic Responsible – Amend the EPR to address the needs of the hill states.

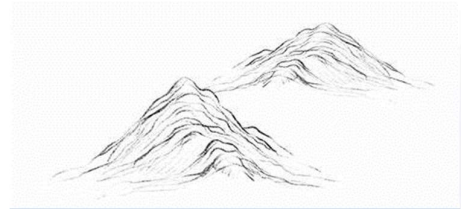
Create a single window system for waste management – bringing all agencies under one umbrella.



Shri Saurabh Bahuguna, Cabinet Minister, Government of Uttarakhand stressed the critical importance of solid and plastic waste management in Uttarakhand and the entire Indian Himalayan Region and shared that the Government of Uttarakhand was committed to the implementation

of Single Use Plastic (SUP) ban and all other measures proposed by the government of India. He stressed that awareness generation and public campaigns on the subject were the need of the hour and that a campaign within Uttarakhand was a priority for which all necessary support would be extended. He also supported the idea of a single window system for waste management within Uttarakhand. On the subject of Extended Producer Responsibility (ERP) he agreed that companies should be held responsible for plastic waste generation and said “the companies will have to take responsibility, they must be held accountable”. He closed with the assurance that he is in complete agreement with the house and that he would share the learnings with the Chief Minister so that together “we can eradicate plastic pollution”.





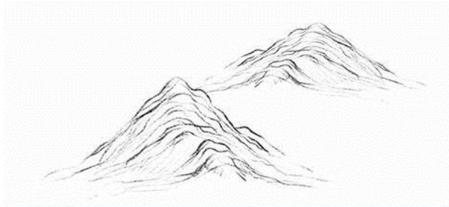
Session 2: Plastic Waste Management in the Hills and Tourist Destinations

Ms Aarushi Nishank, environmentalist and co-founder of Sparsh Ganga Program in Uttarakhand was the first speaker of the session and she shared her concerns, online, about the environment and climate change. She emphasised that we need to change our habits and lifestyles and become aware of our consumer culture and its harmful impacts on the environment. She stated that promotion of a circular economy was the need of the hour and that eco-friendly products should be promoted as incentives offered to individuals and organisations that provide alternatives to plastic. The Sparsh Ganga initiatives promotes women empowerment through making of products from the flowers and clothes thrown in the Ganga and is also making Bimal Baskets, as alternative packaging, from the bark of the Bimal tree.

Shri Mandeep Soin, Founding President and Member, Responsible Tourism Society of India joined the deliberations online from Delhi and shared the ideas that are likely to become rules in the coming times in the context of responsible tourism. The society has an MoU with the Ministry of Tourism and is a national body spanning all sectors of tourism. He started his presentation with sharing that “one thing is missing in the waste management policy of India and that is action by the traveler” and that gap once filled will make the policy more effective. Major points raised through his presentation are as under:

The Government of India is planning a national social media campaign on ‘being a responsible tourist’. The national guidelines on the same are available on the organization’s website.

A national sustainable tourism board has been formed by the Ministry of Tourism and it is being discussed that every visa application (by those wanting to visit India) should have a box that says ‘I abide by the responsible tourism guidelines’ and it must be ticked by the applicant. Visa should be given only to those who are willing to abide by the guidelines. He proposed that similarly when a domestic traveler buys an air ticket, he/she should sign a similar declaration. The hoteliers and tour operators also need to be roped in and the culture of carrying one’s own non-plastic water bottle should be encouraged by various



means – ask for showing the bottle at hotel check-in, install RO and other non-plastic water dispensers for water where tourists can fill their bottles.

Some other ideas that may be implemented could be – take your litter back, trained tourist guides who care for the environment etc. He emphasized that while it is good to say ‘Atithi Devo Bhava’ the new saying should be ‘Prakriti Devo Bhava’. Everyone must become a responsible tourist; responsible tourism is a necessity.

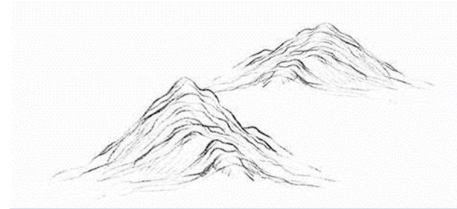
Businesses need to start thinking about nature and like Patagonia aim to make earth their stakeholder; only then can the climate crisis be addressed.

Shri Kaushik Chandrashekhar from UNEP, in his presentation on ‘SUPs and Alternatives’ emphasized the following:

Behavior change is necessary for managing the plastic waste crisis – use and throw culture, littering, wasteful use of things such as straws, waste burning, not segregating waste – are all behaviors that need to be changed. Alternatives for plastics need to be selected based on some key factors – scientific life cycle-based studies, socio-economic viability and cultural acceptability. Plastic alternatives should be re-usable i.e., they should not be single use items.

- Educated the elected representatives about the harms of plastic waste and laws existing for its management.
- Ensure that the tourists bring back their waste from the mountains; implement practical solutions.
- Empower the Gram

Shri Dinesh Pant from TERI presented the Haridwar Waste Management Plan and shared that Haridwar produces 230 tons of waste every day of which 16 tons is plastic and that management of this quantum of waste was becoming very difficult for the authorities. He emphasized that the city should constitute a Task Force or a Monitoring Committee to ensure effective SUPs phase-out and multiple measures like no littering signages, door to door collection, segregation of waste and awareness generation should be taken-up. He was invited to send the plan to the authorities for sharing with other ULBs.

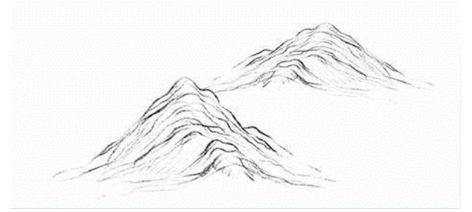


Shri Roshan Ratouri, Chairman, Nagar Pallika, Muni Ki Reti, shared his own and his team's experiences in managing waste. He emphasized that SUPs ban would not be effective unless violators are penalized and at the same time made aware of harms of plastic waste. He shared that in order to implement the SUPs ban he and his team have arrived at an effective solution where in violations are fined with high amounts and when finally, people come to him for concessions he reduces it as per law also drives home the point repeat offences would result in higher fines. As a result, violators think twice before doing it again, the nagar pallika gets a regular income and is able to undertake more initiatives for keeping the town clean. He emphasized the need for involving elected representatives in the waste management solutions because they have a stake in their constituency while officials and other entities may come and go. However, he said that information and awareness about impact of burgeoning plastic waste and laws for its management is limited amongst the elected representatives and this gap needs to be addressed. He also stressed that solutions must be practical and change can only be sustainable when rules and laws are effectively implemented. He shared that they would be installing machines to make furniture from waste plastic and he hoped that such initiatives would be supported and promoted by the government of Uttarakhand. The other efforts being undertaken by the Muni Ki Reti Nagar Pallika are – promotion of *khulhad* for tea at roadside tea stalls and *dhabas*, twice a day garbage collection from public places and constant and relentless implementation of rules.

Educate the elected representatives on plastic waste pollution and its management at all levels.

Penalise the rich for excessive plastic waste generation and focus on the ban on production and supply of SUPs.

Shri Ashok Pandey, A.D., Urban Development Directorate, in his closing remarks on the session emphasized that the waste management scenario is not improving due to the lack of involvement of the elected representatives and only their enrichment through awareness and knowledge can bring about a change. For example, he said that majority of the proposals received from the Gram Panchayats focus on roads and drains and this shows that they neither understand the importance of waste management nor are they aware of the laws for its management. He emphasized the importance of making plastic waste

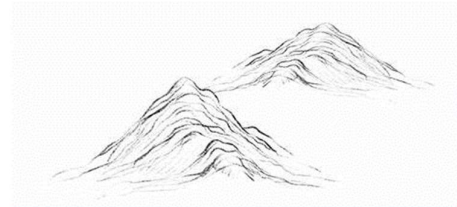


management a top-down process as in his view the rich pollute way more than the poor. In this context that in Uttarakhand they started by making the Raj Bhawan plastic free, then the CM residence and so on and today they are ensuring that all government concerns should be plastic free.

Shri S.P. Subudhi, Member Secretary Uttarakhand Pollution Board as the chair for the session emphasized the role of tourism in the increase of plastic pollution within Uttarakhand and shared that efforts were being made to clean the Ganga and within the borders of Uttarakhand its water quality had improved significantly however a lot still needed to be done and the government of Uttarakhand was planning to fence the dumpsites along the river banks to protect from garbage leakages into the river. He also emphasized the importance of awareness on the subject of plastic pollution. He agreed with Shri Pandey that the rich pollute far more than the poor but when it comes to implementation of SUPs ban the roadside vendors become the first culprit and the big producers, transporters and sellers of banned plastic items go scot-free. Speaking on the SUPs ban he said, only 19 items have been picked for a ban out of a list of lakhs of items in the market so it is clear that there is no consensus on what constitutes a Single Use Plastic (SUP) so the focus should be on stopping the manufacture and supply of plastic because the poor will find an alternative, they always have.

The chair for the session Shri Subudhi emphasized the initiatives undertaken by the Government of Uttarakhand in the context of managing plastic pollution:

- **The government of Uttarakhand has banned 21 items as against the 19 proposed in the SUPs Ban and plastic bags of all shapes, sizes and microns have been banned because it is very difficult to keep track of microns for the implementors.**
- **The Uttarakhand State Act has been used to define the penalties for violators of SUPs Ban – Manufacturers will be fined Rs 500,00, Transporters will be fined Rs 200,000, sellers will be fined Rs 100,000 and users/small vendors will be fined Rs 100.**



- **Urban local Bodies and Gram Panchayats have been made responsible for taking action against violators of SUPs Ban and thousands of officers of seven departments have also been charged with ensuring compliance.**
- **Government is also in the process of drafting a policy that will enable subsidies for individuals and organisations working on alternatives of plastic packaging.**

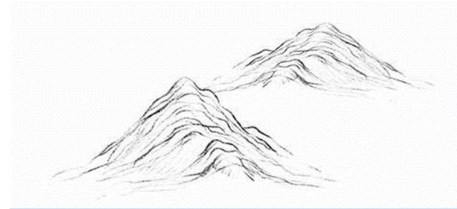
Major Outcomes of the Study

Concluding Session: Open House Discussion

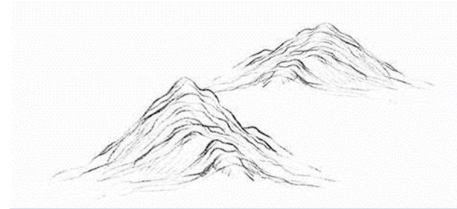
Due to constraints of time the open house discussions had to be limited but the ideas and information emerging from it give a clear indication of the possibilities in effective plastic waste management. The major points are as under:



- All PET bottles (water, cold drinks, juices) should be made in one shape this will enable effecting recycling and re-use.
- Tagging of plastic carried by tourists should be initiated as it has already been done in some place like Munnar. The items should be tagged and deposit taken to ensure all plastic is carried out by the users and disposed appropriately.
- Alternatives to plastic will only emerge if an ecosystem that supports research, experiment and incentives is put in place by the government. As of now there is no incentive for young entrepreneurs to work in this field.
- Alternatives to plastic are likely to be more expensive than plastic so upcycling should be incentivised.

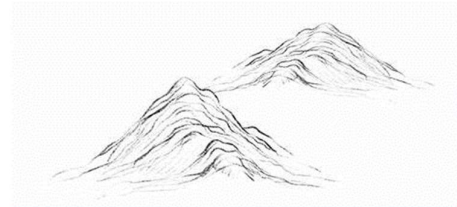


- CCTV cameras could be placed in strategic and necessary areas to prevent garbage dumping in forests and other sites. The *Swachhta App* can have an added feature that will enable reporting and ensuring action against violators.
 - Construction and Demolition waste laws have not been implemented; all construction waste is being thrown in rivers and forests especially in the hill regions of the country.
 - Learnings from the 'Samajhdar' campaign on hand washing and hygiene can feed into a robust campaign on plastic waste. *Smajhdar campaign* is operational in 320 villages of Uttarakhand and can include the element of plastic waste in their existing campaign.
 - Uttarakhand has 83 peaks that are open to mountaineers and the forest check posts at each site have been successfully running a regular intervention for plastic management through tagging and deposit system. The plastic items carried by climbers and trekkers are counted and listed and a deposit is taken. The deposit is returned after they show their items on return. Deposit amount ranges from Rs5000 to Rs 10,000.
 - Segregation of garbage has to become mandatory if plastic waste has to be managed. In this context the contractor tipping policy of the state needs to be amended. At the moment the contractors that are employed by the municipalities to transport garbage are paid according to weight and the contractors don't have any incentive to promote segregation.
- **Create incentives and ecosystems that nurture research and experiments and enable production of alternatives to Single Use Plastics.**
 - **Build a robust campaign on plastic waste pollution.**
 - **Focus on creating waste management systems that acknowledge and include the role of the rag-pickers in the waste management chain – The Polluters, including the companies, should pay for these systems.**
 - **Make segregation at source mandatory and amend the tipping fee given to the contractors that facilitates non-compliance on segregation.**
 - **Multi Layered Plastics (MLPs) are a bigger source of plastic waste and must be included in the ban.**
 - **Governments must invest in technologies of waste management that suit the mountain terrains and on regular O&M after a system is installed.**



- The role of ragpickers is critical in waste management and all stakeholders need to acknowledge their role and ensure that the policies are inclusive of them, their role and their welfare. The producers should pay for the creation of an eco-system where in the rag pickers get protection and incentives for the role they play. The producers must pay an eco-system protection fee since they are responsible for the plastic waste crisis.
- MLPs are non-recyclables so gutkha and pan masala and tobacco sachets cannot be recycled and they are significant polluters who are not covered by the SUP Ban.
- None of the Urban local bodies have made by-laws for implementation of SUPs Ban so its implementation is questionable.
- The waste processing plant at Dehradun requires huge quantities of garbage for viable processing is the explanation given by contractors and some officers for continued non-segregation of waste at source in Dehradun.
- The debate on plastic waste management needs to be turned on its head in order to address the issue. Right now, users are being blamed for it but if one were to look at facts it is clear that the investments on Petro-chemical products are huge. It is the corporates who are benefitting and constantly promoting the use of these products.
- High usage of plastic products in hospitals, and medical products is not even being discussed but the medical sector is one of the largest consumer and generator of plastic waste.
- Governments don't have budgets for O&M of waste treatment plants but it is essential so after a short time the system collapses and the waste problem return to square one so appropriate allocation of resources to appropriate authorities at all levels is critical for managing the plastic waste crisis.





Sustainable Mountain Development Summit-XI

09 - 12 October 2022, Leh Ladakh

Sustainable Mountain Development Summit-XI (SMDS-XI) held at Sindhu Sanskriti Kendra (SSK), Leh, Ladakh from 9 to 12 October, 2022. The theme of the summit was **‘Harnessing Tourism for Sustainable Mountain Development’**. The summit included the Indian Himalayan Youth Summit-V

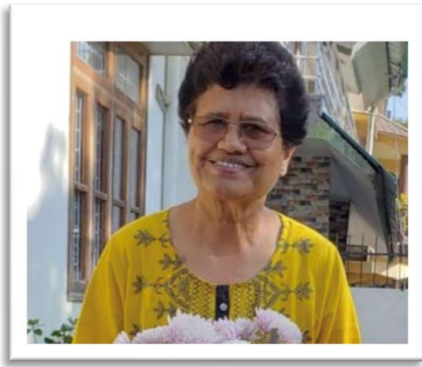
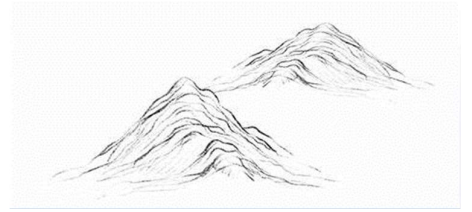


(IHYSV) on 9 October, 2022 at SSK, Leh, which focused on ‘Entrepreneurship in the Himalayas’. Finally, there was the Mountain Legislators’ Meet held on 11 October, 2022 at the Assembly Hall, LAHDC, Leh where the discussions focused on Extended Producer Responsibility: From Policy to practice.

SMDS brings together a diverse group of stakeholders to discuss relevant themes warranting immediate attention of the mountains. Recommendations emerging from these summits are pursued by IMI subsequently for actionable outputs that include the Meet of the Mountain States with key policymakers. The Mountain Legislators’ Meet and the Indian Himalayan Youth Summit are two events which are integral components of SMDS.

SDFU participated in the event with the following members and participants from the state:

1. Dr Gopal Singh Rawat
2. Sri STS Lepcha
3. Youth representatives:
 - a) Ms. Kala Baral
 - b) Mr. Mukesh Gabriyal
 - c) Mr. Jasmeet Singh
4. Hon’ble Mayor Sri Sunil Uniyal “Gama”
5. Dr Harshwanti Bisht (key note speaker for Dr RS Tolia Memorial Lecture 2022)



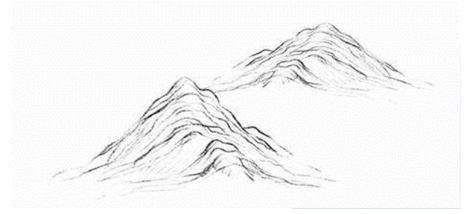
The Dr. RS Tolia Memorial lecture 2022 was given by Dr Harshwanti Bisht a renowned mountaineer, professor and ecologist hailing from village Sukai in Pauri Garhwal, Uttarakhand. Dr Bisht is passionate about the mountains and a champion of women emancipation. She is a die-hard conservationist and globally acknowledged for her contribution to ecological conservation in the mountainous region of

Gangotri in Uttarakhand. Her work has been both practical and academic, including the restoration of birch forests in an attempt to stabilize the receding glacier at Gaumukh. Having been a Reader in the department of Economics at Government Post-Graduate College, Uttarkashi; she once said *“My interest in economics is trumped by my passion for ecology, mountains should not be places where you go, have fun and litter to your heart’s content without a thought for the ecology; since they provide us with recreation and livelihood apart from being significant for various other reasons, we need to be responsible towards them.”* She is also First woman mountaineer to summit Nanda Devi, Arjuna Award Recipient in 1981- and First-Woman President of Indian Mountaineering Foundation, 2021.

The lecture given is reproduced as below:

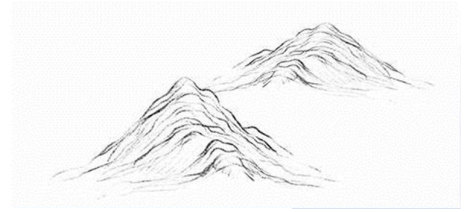
I pay my tributes to the great visionary Dr. R. S. Tolia who was a top bureaucrat, social scientist, historian, social activist, social reformer, mentor, author, founder of IMI, and an inspiration for me. Whenever I faced any challenges in the work, I was doing for different mountain regions and I approached him, he would always encourage me and say, “Since you have started something, now you need to fight and progress!” He was an inspiration for the people of Uttarakhand and beyond.

The theme for SMDS-XI is *‘harnessing tourism for sustainable mountain development’*. Over the last 30 years I have also been working in this regard though while also working as a teacher in a college. I was working for the conservation of the Gangotri-Gaumukh area. I have worked in that area for the last 30-35 years when I started my mountaineering training. I realised that while people are earning money and gaining employment, there are



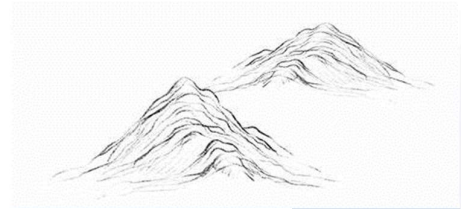
certain environmental issues that needed to be addressed. I was given a research project by the then Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India to study the impacts of tourism. I realised that it was not just tourism that was taking place in the area. The pilgrims visit the area for religious reasons. So, the area has pilgrimages as well as trekkers. The mountaineers are also there. All types of people were going up there. I found that the economic impact was good as were the employment opportunities. However, logically everyone was losing due to environment degradation. I realised that the forest cover was being destroyed by the people despite being declared as a national park but nothing was done seriously. Firewood was being collected from there. Garbage was collected there. In 1984, I went on an expedition to Mt Everest and saw the good work done by Sir Edmund Hillary in terms of environment conservation, schools, dispensaries, hospitals etc. I thought that I was not capable of starting schools and dispensaries but felt I could study the area and identify the negative impacts of tourism and pilgrimage and find ways of addressing it. So, I started working on this, along with my students and friends. In addition, I started doing repeat photography in the area. In 1866, Samuel Brown visited the area. So, I bought some pictures taken by him and repeated them in 2010 to understand changes in the mountain. In 1866, there was a very small temple in the area, the Bhagirathi River and the forest. In 2010, a big temple had been built in addition to new settlements, and reduction of forest cover. Buildings have been constructed beyond Gangotri too to provide night shelter to people. People then started coming to stay there for a few days. So, a lot of changes have taken place in 140 years.

In 1877, T. G. Spark visited the area. His photograph shows the small temple and no other development. Images from 1993 show the Gangotri temple and the growing township around it. In 1993, the roofs were made from the barks of trees and fewer buildings had been constructed. By 2010, new buildings are visible and a helipad had also been built. These structures cater to pilgrimage and tourism. In 1866, Samuel Brown photographed Gaumukh, which we compared with images from 2010 and found that the snout had receded by 2.5 km. In addition, we also noticed an increase in crevasses and water pools on the glacier due to climate change. We found such glacial lakes even in the high reaches of



these glacial systems. We started doing plantations in this area and fenced them to allow them to grow without being damaged by wild animals. There are impacts of unplanned tourism in Gangotri. I am saying unplanned as there was no one to direct the process. It is important that mountain states do not repeat the mistakes of other states. Instead, we should learn from each other's mistakes. Many pilgrims do not carry their own sticks and they cut the trees to create walking sticks. Horses and ponies were allowed in the area for pilgrims to ride. In addition, villagers from the area used to send their horses and ponies for grazing in the alpine zone. In the 1980s and 1990s shabby tea shops popped up along these routes and they were also burning wood they collected from the forest, especially juniper and birch. Haphazard pilgrimage and tourism resulted in these impacts. This was happening across the region. We raised the issue and people went to the court. The Hon'ble Supreme Court restricted the number of people entering the area. Otherwise, endless numbers of people were entering the area. If we are going to spoil our potential areas for tourism for fast money, and we don't care for our resources then a day will come very soon when the court or the government will say that we are spoiling the area and restrict access to it. This will have a negative impact on employment and income. I had trained in the area and felt that something should be done for the area. We sat and discussed and decided to raise plant nurseries, replant trees, organise awareness campaigns and plantations. We also planted some medicinal plants. We tried unsuccessfully to regenerate birch from cuttings and decided to go with seeds. In 1996, we started the plantation on sloped areas to avoid camping areas. Do not be in a hurry because hill states do not have the topography for huge production units and industries. The only thing we do have is tourism. If we are going to develop tourism in an unscientific manner then it will spoil the area. Then the area might end up being closed and this will hit the local communities hard. We have to be sensible. Do not give a chance to anyone to say it will be closed. A good example of this is Nandadevi, which environmentalists campaigned and closed for 10 years in 1982 but still continues.

We have to become guards of these valuable places and resources. So that we can say that we are guarding it ourselves. We have to do this practically and ensure that nobody imposes any restrictions unreasonably. I still remember in 1981 local boys and girls were carrying our loads. We used to ask them what they did and they would say that they were earning



money to fund their education and were not taking any money from our parents. I wonder what happened to them and their self-esteem. We also do not know what has happened to the environment and ecology of the area. Few people visit the area and claim that it is still dangerous to open the area. My request to people across the IHR is please do not spoil your areas. So that no one gets an opportunity to say that it should be closed. It is very dangerous to continue this type of tourism. Be sensible and only use scientifically-tested systems. Only then can we say that we are doing sustainable tourism. Otherwise, it will remain empty talk.

Objectives and Outcomes/Outputs

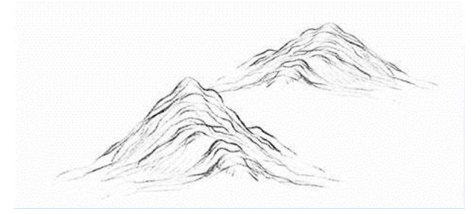
The key objectives for SMDS XI:

1.Exploring new avenues in tourism within beautiful, biodiverse and rich cultural landscape of the Indian Himalaya Region

- Astro-tourism
- Wellness, spiritual tourism
- Wildlife and nature-based tourism
- Heritage and cultural tourism
- Exploring local food cultures
- Adventure tourism

2.Ensuring equity and environmental sustainability in tourism is critical for the well-being of peoples and planet

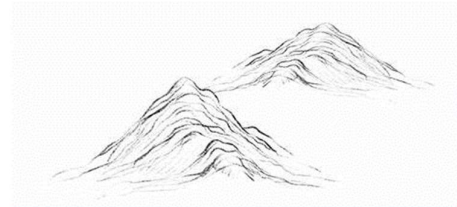
- Social inclusion and gender equity is made integral tourism plans and actions
- Youth participation and inclusion is made central to all tourism plans and actions
- Tourism that promotes entrepreneurship and innovation is implemented
- Tourism that upholds cultural values, heritage as well as crafts that emerges of the traditions are promoted
- Community based homestays are promoted and marketed with policy and resource allocations
- Promotion of high value tourism with low impacts
- Caps and limits to number of tourists is decided based on carrying capacity studies
- Innovative scaling of tourism with the lens of equity and sustainability



3. Landscape level actions that intersect with sustainable tourism

- Carbon neutrality and tourism
 - Promote solar power/renewable energy usage
 - Undertake water conservation actions
 - Landscape management and restoration plans and action
 - Land use regulation and ecological integrity
- Waste
 - Evidence based waste management plans and actions
 - Reduction
 - Reuse and refillable revolution
 - Collection centers linked to recycling
 - Waste beyond urban spaces and include religious, forest and defense establishments
 - Extended Producer Responsibility for plastic waste made effective and implemented in the mountain
 -





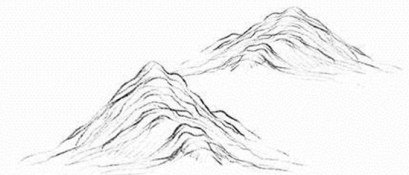
5th R.S Tolia Forum 2022



One-day workshop held on 11th December 2022 under the aegis of RST Forum an annual program was held in tribute to Late Dr RS Tolia. This year's theme was **“Role of Community Based Organizations and Women in Forest Management and Climate Change Mitigation in Uttarakhand”**.

Late Dr. Raghunandan Singh Tolia, was a visionary son of mountains, scholar and beacon of action. 11th December also happened to be the International Mountain Day. It is noteworthy that one of the major contributions made by Dr. R.S. Tolia in newly established state of Uttarakhand was administrative reforms in forestry working and convergence between forest and rural development. From the very beginning the state has recognized the role of community-based organizations (CBOs) especially Van Panchayats (VPs), Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs), and women's self-help groups (SHGs) in forest based rural development in Uttarakhand. The state has established as many as 12,064 VPs and 7991 BMCs to strengthen forest management and biodiversity conservation. In addition, a large number of eco-development committees (EDS) have been established around protected areas to sustainably manage the buffer and eco-sensitive zones. It is estimated that nearly 7,35,100 hectares of forests in the state falls under VPs that forms about 14% of the geographical area. All other classes of forests, village grazing lands and revenue land under Gram Sabhas are to be managed and sustainably utilized by the local communities through BMCs as per the provisions of Section 41 of the Biological Diversity Act (2004).

Despite a long history and experience of community-based forest management and rich legacy of women led forest conservation movements such as Chipko, the state still faces several challenges when it comes to participatory management of forests and forest resources, equitable sharing of benefits from bio-resources especially non-timber forest



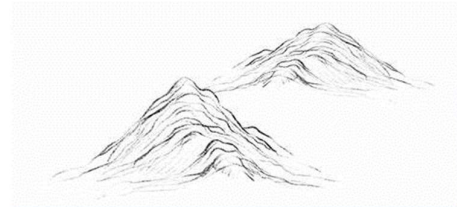
produces from the community forests or the village commons. It is also well established that in rural Uttarakhand women form the single largest user group of forest resources. They play a leading role in prevention of fire and protection of forests. However, scarcity of fuel wood and fodder directly affect women and their workload. There are very few schemes that encourage women to participate in forest and pasture restoration activities. Though, it is mandatory to have women representative in the VPs and BMCs, it is not so in their formation. Furthermore, out-migration of men increases their burden many times.

The poster is for a workshop titled "Role of Community-based organizations and women in management of forests and climate change mitigation in Uttarakhand". It is held on 11th December 2022 from 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM at Manthan, Forest Headquarter, Dehradun. The event is supported by Nainital Bank, Nainital Bank, and Doon Library and Research Centre. The poster also features logos for SDFU (Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand), Shiksha Forum, and International Mountain Day (11 December). A Zoom link and password are provided at the bottom.

Outmigration in many areas has another ramification in the form of agricultural abandonment, loss of agro-biodiversity, infestation of invasive alien species in the village pastures. The workshop provided a common platform for various stakeholders including senior civil servants, scholars, forest officers and representatives of CBOs especially women from Uttarakhand as well as outside the state to deliberate on the ways to strengthen the role of CBOs and women in management of forests also forest based climate change mitigation. Major objectives of the workshop were:

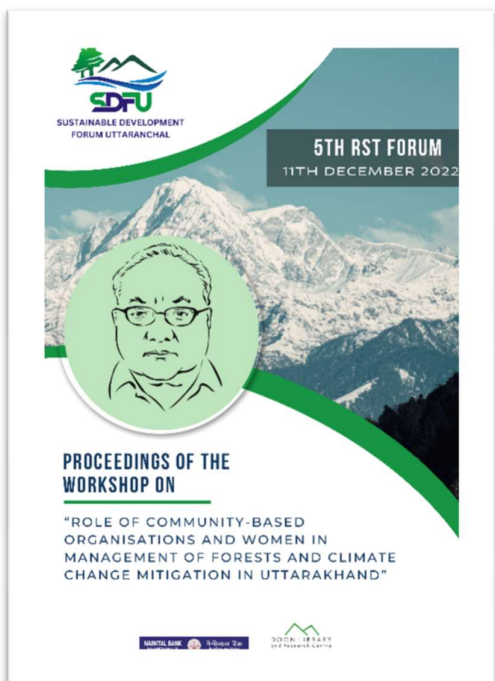
1. To revisit the role of CBOs, especially VPs and BMCs in forest based rural development in the state of Uttarakhand,
2. To identify the areas of convergence among CBOs and various line agencies for the sustainable use of natural resources and forest-based livelihoods in Uttarakhand,
3. To deliberate on the role of rural women in climate change mitigation and their role in implementing the state level climate action plans.

The workshop was organized in collaboration with in association with Doon **Library and Research Centre** and sponsored by the **Nainital Bank**. The day long workshop was divided into four sessions and attended by more than 50 participants.



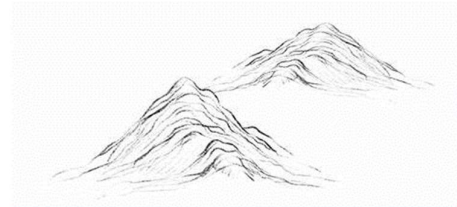
(*Reference: Uttarakhand Forest report as per JICA project in van panchayat. [van-panchayat / http://jicauttarakhand.org:90](http://jicauttarakhand.org:90))

Key Policy Recommendations



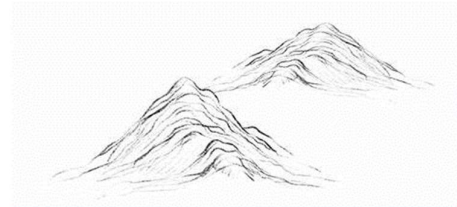
Major policy recommendations emerging from the detailed discussions in the workshop are as follows:

1. There is a need to have an independent cadre of subordinate field staff under the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Van Panchayats on the line of Wildlife Wing of Forest Department. Without such an institutional support it would be extremely difficult to implement the revised policies and action plans for the Van Panchayats.
2. Uttarakhand State Biodiversity Board and Forest Department especially Van Panchayat Wing need to harmonize functioning, roles and responsibilities of Van Panchayats and BMCs. It is recommended that the villages or Development Blocks having very little or no area under Van Panchayats may be brought under BMCs. Independent technical committees should be formed at Block and District levels to monitor the progress of Van Panchayats and BMCs.
3. There is a need to promote the system of carbon credits and the use of Green Energy for industrial and domestic purposes in hill districts and also establish domestic tax-free carbon market at sites of eco-restoration. The revenue from Non-Timber Forest Produce (that includes water), should be allocated equitably within the local community and the government. Surplus water from the well managed Van Panchayat forests, if drawn by the local market places / towns should be levied with appropriate fees in the form of Payment for Ecosystem Services and paid to concerned Van Panchayat. Also, the right



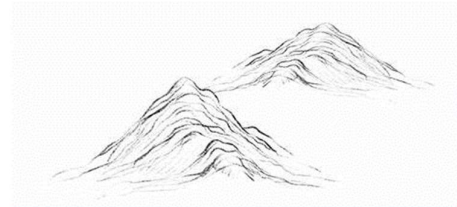
- should be given to local community for participation in usage of carbon credits in the community forests.
4. The 'compensatory afforestation' should also be done in the vacant Van Panchayat lands for which the amendment of CAMPA norms / rules may be formulated/suggested by the State Government.
 5. Provision in the rules of the Van Panchayats may be made for the Van Panchayats in the Urban areas. Such Van Panchayats require special dispensation with in the Van Panchayat Rules and representation from the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in the Van Panchayats may be provided for in the Rules.
 6. The Van Panchayats as well as BMCs of the state will require regular training and capacity building programmes regarding their roles and responsibilities. The state government also needs to include community-based forest management in the school curricula.
 7. The state government needs to revamp the schemes for reducing the drudgery of women in the rural areas by introducing smokeless *chulhas*, foddors, spring recharge, water supply to households, other energy saving devices so that women can spend more time for their health and hygiene.





Photos from the Event





SDFU – CPPGG Executive Meeting

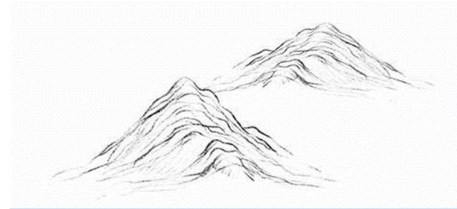


A meeting between SDFU and Centre for Public Policy & Good Governance (Department of Planning) Govt. of Uttarakhand was held on 01st February 2023 in Doon Library & Research Center. The meeting focuses in addressing the development issues concerning

Uttarakhand and further explore areas of Partnership and collaboration between SDFU and CPPGG.

Dr. Manoj Kumar Pant (ACEO-CPPGG), Dr. Pradeep Mehta (State Head, UNDP Uttarakhand), officials of CPPGG and UNDP, Shri N Ravi Shanker (Director, Doon Library & Research Centre), Shri STS Lepcha (Chairman, SDFU), Dr. GS Rawat (Vice Chairman, SDFU), Ms. Binita Shah (Secretary, SDFU) and SDFU Secretariat Team were present in the meeting.





10th Meet of the Mountain States 2023



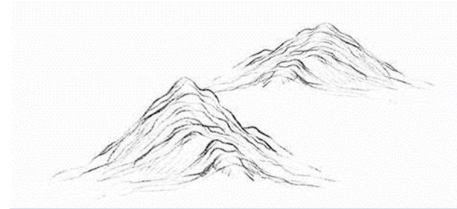
Meet of Mountain States 2023 (MoMS) was organised by Integrated Mountain Initiative in collaboration with Divecha Center for Climate Change of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) at Paryavaran Bhavan, New Delhi from 23 to 24 March 2023. The meet brought together members of the IMI, elected representatives, law and policy makers from Indian Himalayan states and the central government, and also researchers and scientists of the IISc, as well as, other stakeholders engaged in the Indian Himalayan region.

SDFU participated in the event with the following members and participants from the state:

1. Dr Gopal Singh Rawat
2. Dr Rajendra Dobhal
3. Ms Binita Shah
4. Sri Munna Singh Chauhan, MLA, Govt of Uttarakhand
5. Dr. Vinod Bhatt, IRDE
6. Dr. Pradeep Joshi, UPCCB
7. Mr. Biju Negi, Beej Bachao Andolan
8. Mr. Vijay Jardhari, Beej Bachao Andolan

The objective of the meet was:

1. To bring together researchers and policy makers on the identified themes and close the gap between science and policy praxis through collaborative dialogues, actions and networking.
2. Synthesize recommendations of the mountain states so as to synergies and bring further clarity into the specific policies relevant for the mountains.



3. Create solution pathways for issues faced by the mountains and develop policy and research needed to address the sustainability problems.

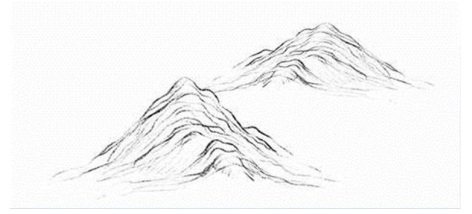
Thematic Discussions at MoMs 2023

THEME I: Agroecology in Indian Himalayas 'Resurgence with Millets'

'International Year of Millets' 2023 has been declared on India's call, and #IYM2023 will be an opportunity to raise awareness of, and direct policy attention to the nutritional and health benefits of millets and their suitability for cultivation under adverse and changing climatic conditions (FAO). For mountain communities, this renewed interest in millets is very timely and one that must be leveraged. Millets are a crop of great importance and have been an integral part of food culture in the mountains. Cultivated traditionally, millets have occupied a space that has fulfilled nutrition requirements as well as occupied a high cultural significance. Millets are a resilient and nutritious crop and adapt to different ecological conditions that can withstand extreme heat conditions, low rainfall, long dry spells, making them an ideal plant in the face of changing climatic conditions.

Millets and other pseudo cereals have long been overshadowed in the agriculture development of India, especially in the mountains. In the last few years, however, the Government of India has taken positive steps to promote millets. Declaration of the millets as a 'Nutra Cereal' in a notification in 2018 followed up with MSP for millets are some of them.

The conservation of land races and the diversity of seeds among farmers is top priority as many seed varieties have dwindled in the past decades. Post harvesting processes are still rudimentary and there is great scope for innovation in the sector to match that of wheat and paddy. Much of the millet ecosystem is to do with rain fed agriculture where a completely different regime of crop management needs to be adopted that needs mainstreaming.



THEME II: Plastic Waste Management in the Himalaya- Pathways for EPR implementation

Plastic waste is now a globally acknowledged crisis. This crisis in the ecologically fragile mountain regions of the IHR is further amplified due to remoteness, accessibility, limited land availability for waste treatment and disposal. Increasing urbanization and tourism in the Himalaya have made waste one of the most visible challenges. Litter along trails in tourist spots and open dumping of waste in valleys and streams have become common, which is a huge public health and environmental pollution issue.

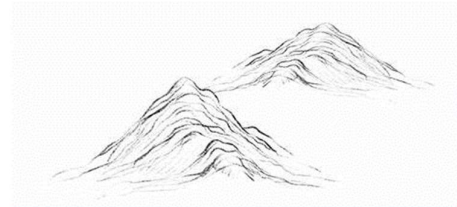
There is a clear intersection between food and plastic waste that has been established by the data from The Himalayan Cleanups since 2018 that shows more than 80 percent of waste from home-based audits and outdoor cleanups emanate from food packaging. It is an indicator of the changing food habits and preference for packaged and processed food items and the need to look at waste from a larger systemic lens.

Mountain Legislators' Meet organised in Darjeeling 2021 and Ladakh 2022 discussed extensively on plastic waste management in the mountains and extended producer responsibility. The Leh Declaration that is seeking an amendment to the EPR framework to have specific mountain specificities has been endorsed by legislators from across the mountains.

A policy paper for plastic waste management in the IHR has been drafted by IMI under UNEP's project - CounterMeasuresII. The policy needs acceptance and implementation in the mountain states.

MOMS 2023 - Key outcomes

- A Himalayan Declaration to be finalised at MOMS 2023 in Delhi based on recommendations that evolve.
- Mountain Millet key action points to pilot projects of one health and millets in the mountains.
- Pilot actions projects identified for implementation in collaboration with IMI chapters for plastic waste management.



- Finalizing EPR recommendations that are specific for mountain states.
- Develop research and solution pathways needed for mountain sustainability problems

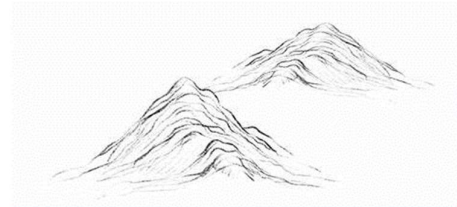
Photos from the event



10th MoMS, Paryavaran Bhawan, MoEFCC



IMI Book Launch, Indian Habitat Centre



Annual General Meeting

1. **4th Annual General Meeting** of Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand (SDFU) held on 03rd September 2022 in Hotel Inderlok, Dehradun. The Board of council elected Shri STS Lepcha as the new chairman and Dr. Gopal S Rawat as Vice-chairman and acting Treasurer of SDFU.

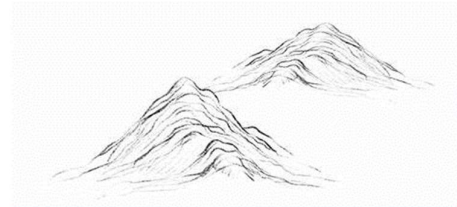


Felicitations to Dr Rajendra P Dobhal by Ms Vibha Puri Das

Outgoing Chairman Dr Rajender Dobhal said that he still remembers the day Late Dr RS Tolia calling him one afternoon to tell him about the formation of SDF and that Dr Tolia would like him to be the chairman of the forum. Dr Dobhal said that he has served and guided the forum for the last six years and now others should take the lead. Dr Dobhal said that remains a councilor and that he will be personally available for any support in the future.

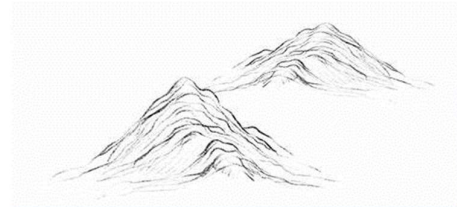
On behalf of the councilors Ms Vibha Puri Das thanked Dr Dobhal for an able leadership and wished him well.

2. **5th Extra Ordinary Annual General Meeting** of Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand held on 29th October 2022 via Zoom Meeting (Virtual Mode).
3. **SDFU Executive Council Meeting** held on 28th January 2023 vis Zoom Meeting (Virtual Mode).
4. **SDFU Executive Council Meeting** held on 03rd March 2023 vis Zoom Meeting (Virtual Mode).



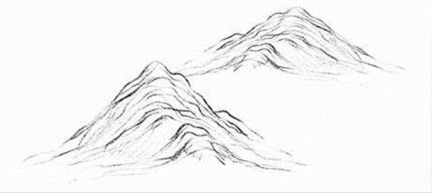
List of SDFU Councilors / Members

S.no	Name	Designation
1	Sri STS Lepcha	Chairman
2	Dr. Gopal Singh Rawat	Vice- Chairman / Treasurer
3	Ms Binita Shah	Secretary
4	Dr. Rajendra P Dobhal	Councilor
5	Ms Vibha Puri Das	Councilor
6	Sri NS Napalchiyal	Councilor
7	Dr. BS Barfal	Councilor
8	Dr. Rajesh Thadani	Councilor
9	Dr. BK Joshi	Councilor
10	Prof AN Purohit	Councilor
11	Sri N Ravi Shanker	Councilor
12	Sri Krishan S. Rautela	Member
13	Sri Anoop Nautiyal	Member
14	Sri IK Pande	Member
15	Sri CS Joshi	Member
16	Ms Priyanka Tolia	Member
17	Ms Richa Ghansiyal	Member



Our Partners and Supporters





Auditor's Report & Balance Sheet



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| Dehradun-248001 (Uttarakhand)
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| Email: dehradun@adroitandco.in
| Website: www.adroitandco.in



Offices at New Delhi, Chandigarh, Ghaziabad, Noida, Faridabad & Gurugram

Auditor's Report

1 We have audited the financial statements of **Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand (SDFU)**, 5/6, New 25, Lane No.3, Teg Bahadur Road, Dehradun which comprises Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2023, the statement of Income & Expenditure A/c for the year then ended, and a Notes to the Accounts and other informations.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

2 Management is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position and financial performance in accordance with the Accounting Standard generally accept in India. This responsibility includes the design, implementation and maintenance of adequate internal financial controls, that were operating effectively for ensuring the accuracy and Completeness of the accounting records, relevant to the preparation & presentation of financial Statements that give a true & fair view and are free from materials misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

3 Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on Auditing issued by Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and the disclosures in the financial statements. The procedure selected depends on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessment, the auditor considers internal financial control relevant to the preparation of the financial statements that give a true & fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances.

An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management as well as evaluating the overall presentation of financial statements.

Opinion

4 Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

In our opinion and information & explanations given to us, the aforesaid financial statements give the information in the manner so required and give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles of the state of affairs as and its surplus for the year ended on that date.

We report, subject to Notes to accounts and our Audit observations to this report of even date that :

- A We have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purpose of the audit.
- B In our opinion, proper books of account have been kept at the office, so far as appears from our examination of the books.
- C In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the said accounts, read with notes thereon, if any, give a true and fair view :-
 - (i) In the case of the Balance Sheet, of the state of the affairs as 31st March, 2023, and
 - (ii) In the case of Income & Expenditure A/c for the year ended on that date.
 - (iii) In the case of Receipts & Payments A/c for the year ended on that date.

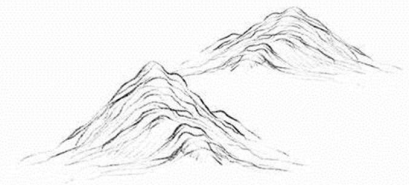
Dated : 10-08-2023



For ADROIT & CO
Chartered Accountants

(CA.Tarun Agarwal)
Partner

FRN No.: 006547N / M.No.: 093945
UDIN No.: 23093945BGXXYU2251



Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand (SDFU)
5/8, New 25, Lane No.3, Teg Bahadur Road, Dehradun

Balance Sheet
As at 31st March 2023

PARTICULARS	Note No.	As at 31st March 2023	As at 31st March 2022
		(in Rs.)	(in Rs.)
Liabilities:			
Capital Account			
Corpus Capital Fund	1	937,157.02	1,093,930.00
Earmarked Grant Fund	2	-	-
General Surplus Fund	3	176,609.71	248,845.36
Current Liabilities			
Sundry Creditors	4	-	60,000.00
TDS Payables		-	14,500.00
TOTAL	>>>	1,113,766.73	1,417,275.36
Assets			
Fixed Assets			
As per details	5	43,097.35	60,016.00
Current Assets			
Cash & Cash Equivalent	6	1,070,669.38	1,357,259.36
TOTAL	>>>	1,113,766.73	1,417,275.36

Significant accounting policies and notes to accounts

On behalf of the Board Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand (SDFU)


Chairman


Secretary

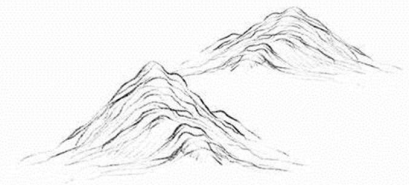
Dated : 10-08-2023

For ADROIT & CO
Chartered Accountants





(CA. Tarun Agarwal)
Partner
FRN No.: 006547N / M.No.: 093945
UDIN No.: 23093945BGXYYU2251



Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand (SDFU)

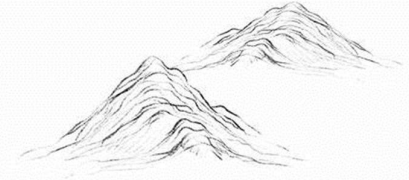
5/6, New 25, Lane No.3, Teg Bahadur Road, Dehradun

Schedules to the Balance Sheet

Note	Name of the Balance Sheet Items	Year 2022-2023			
		As at 31st March 2022	Transactions during the year (Debit/Credit)		As at 31st March 2023
1	Corpus Capital Fund				
1	Corpus Fund	1,093,930.00	478,305.25	321,532.27	937,157.02
2	Others	-	-	-	-
	Total	1,093,930.00	478,305.25	321,532.27	937,157.02
2	Earmarked Grant Fund				
1	Grant Name	-			-
2	Others				-
	Total	-	-	-	-
3	General Surplus Fund				
1	Surplus from Income & Expenditure A/c	248,845.36	72,235.65		176,609.71
2	Others				-
	Total	248,845.36	72,235.65	-	176,609.71
4	Current Liabilities				
1	Sundry Creditors (AB Consultants)	60,000.00	60,000.00		-
2	TDS Payables (Goyal Bhanot & Co.)	14,500.00	14,500.00		-
	Total	74,500.00	74,500.00	-	-
5	Fixed Assets	As at 31-03-2022	Addition	Depreciation	As at 31-03-2023
1	Laptop	15,600.00		6,240.00	9,360.00
2	Printer	7,616.00		1,142.40	6,473.60
3	Computer & Others	36,800.00		14,720.00	22,080.00
4	Office Electric Kettle		1,800.00	270.00	1,530.00
5	Office Room Heater		3,950.00	296.25	3,653.75
	Total	60,016.00	5,750.00	22,668.65	43,097.35
6	Cash & Cash Equivalents	As at 31-03-2022	Debits	Credits	As at 31-03-2023
1	UBI Bank No. 60260201005552	1,357,259.36	533,535.00	820,124.98	1,070,669.38
2	Cash In Hand	-			-
	Total	1,357,259.36	533,535.00	820,124.98	1,070,669.38

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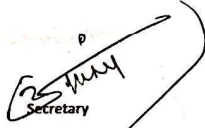
Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand (SDFU)
8/6, New 25, Lane No.3, Teg Bahadur Road, Dehradun

Income & Expenditure Account
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2023

PARTICULARS		Note No.	As at 31st March 2023 (in Rs.)	As at 31st March 2022 (in Rs.)
A	Fund Receiveds :			
1	Grants		500,000.00	364,000.00
2	Prior Period Item/ Expenditures		-	140,000.00
3	Bank Interest & Other Receipts		33,535.00	44,938.00
	Total (A)	>>>	533,535.00	548,938.00
B	Fund Payments :			
a	General Expenses:			
1	RST Forum Expenses		34,732.50	107,021.00
2	Consultancy fee/ salary		6,000.00	70,000.00
3	Accommodation Expenses		16,800.00	-
4	Travelling Expenses		44,200.00	-
5	Printing & Stationary Expenses		13,252.00	3,600.00
6	Misc. & Office Expenses		400.00	21,559.00
b	Project Expenses:			
1	FDG Consultancy Expenses		58,000.00	145,000.00
2	Meeting Expenses		39,322.00	88,900.00
3	UNEP Stakeholder		-	67,470.00
4	Travelling Expenses		3,300.00	-
5	Printing & Stationery		13,609.00	-
6	Expenditure for Earmarked Fund		-	500,000.00
c	Administrative Expenses:			
1	Consultancy Fees		70,000.00	-
2	Audit fees		70,800.00	-
3	Bank Charges		660.80	188.80
4	Office Rent		22,500.00	-
5	Courier Expenses		220.00	-
6	Office Expenses		41,126.25	-
7	Misc. Expenses		30,015.72	-
8	Travelling Expense		166,805.00	7,462.00
9	Website & Software Expense		24,471.22	-
10	Printing & Stationary		120,948.49	-
11	Meeting Expenses		37,212.00	-
12	Depreciation		22,668.65	20,944.00
	Total (B)		837,043.63	1,030,144.80
>>	Excess of Income over Expenditure = (A - B)		(303,508.63)	(481,206.80)

On behalf of the Board Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand (SDFU)


Chairman


Secretary
Dated : 10-08-2023



For **ADROIT & CO**
Chartered Accountants


(CA. Tarun Agarwal)
Partner
FRN No.: 008547N / M.No.: 093945



Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand (SDFU)
8/6, New 25, Lane No.3, Teg Bahadur Road, Dehradun

Receipt & Payment Account
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2023

PARTICULARS		Note	As at 31st March 2023	As at 31st March 2022
A	Opening Balance:			
	Bank Balance		1,357,259.36	1,989,022.16
	b. Cash in Hand		-	-
B	Fund Receiveds :			
1	Grants		500,000.00	364,000.00
2	Bank Interest & Other Receipts		33,535.00	44,938.00
	Total (A + B)	>>>	1,890,794.36	2,397,960.16
C	Fund Payments :			
a	General Expenses:			
1	RST Forum Expenses		34,732.50	107,021.00
2	Consultancy fee/ salary		6,000.00	70,000.00
3	Accommodation Expenses		16,800.00	-
4	Travelling Expenses		44,200.00	-
5	Printing & Stationary Expenses		13,252.00	3,800.00
6	Misc. & Office Expenses		400.00	21,559.00
b	Project Expenses:			
1	FDG Consultancy Expenses		58,000.00	130,500.00
2	Meeting Expenses		39,322.00	88,900.00
3	UNEP Stakeholder		-	67,470.00
4	Travelling Expenses		3,300.00	-
5	Printing & Stationary		13,609.00	-
6	Expenditure for Earmarked Fund		-	500,000.00
c	Office & Administrative Expenses:			
1	Consultancy Fees		70,000.00	
2	Audit fees		70,800.00	
3	Bank Charges		660.80	188.80
4	Office Rent		22,500.00	
5	Courier Expenses		220.00	
6	Office Expenses		41,126.25	
7	Misc. Expenses		30,015.72	
8	Travelling Expense		166,805.00	7,462.00
9	Website & Software Expense		24,471.22	
10	Printing & Stationary		120,948.49	
11	Meeting Expenses		37,212.00	
d	Capital Expenses:			
1	Electric items (Room Heater & Kettle)		5,750.00	46,000.00
	Total (C)		820,124.98	1,040,700.80
D	Closing Balance :			
	Bank Balance		1,070,669.38	1,357,259.36
	Total H = (A+B-C)	>>>	1,070,669.38	1,357,259.36

For **ADROIT & CO**
Chartered Accountants

On behalf of the Board Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand (SDFU)

[Signature]
Chairman

[Signature]
Secretary
Dated : 10-08-2023



[Signature]
(Ca. Tarun Agarwal)
Partner
FRN No.: 006547N / M.No.: 093945



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FORUM UTTARANCHAL



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