

SUSTAINABLE ●
FUTURES
COLLABORATIVE ▲

Building the Foundations

for a

Sustainable Future

Annual Report 2023-24

F O R E W O R D

As a proud representative of the SFC team and as Chair of the Advisory Council, I am delighted to present our Annual Report for 2023-24. I am writing this note at a time very close to the first anniversary of our establishment as a not-for-profit, independent research organisation dedicated to analysing and advancing India's progress toward a sustainable, just, and resilient economy and society. Reflecting on our journey so far, I feel immensely grateful.



This time last year, we spent countless hours deliberating our purpose, defining our role in India's policy ecosystem, and identifying the critical problems we should be addressing. We decided to be bold in our approach – to work on the foundational aspects of framing, understanding, and charting pathways toward tackling India's climate and environmental challenges. We also recognised that achieving systemic change requires deep partnerships that lead to knowledge building and sharing.

We have remained true to this approach and spirit. As India faced extreme, unprecedented heatwaves across large parts of the country, we identified crucial policy gaps in our adaptation response planning and focused on the need to build strong heat resilience frameworks. We took our findings and proposed suggestions to the National Disaster Management Authority, to states, and to local bureaucrats, and are now supporting the development of a national framework for heat preparedness that emphasises long-term, decentralised, and locally-driven actions.

"We decided to be bold in our approach to work on the foundational aspects of framing, understanding, and charting pathways toward tackling India's climate and environmental challenges. We also recognised that achieving systemic change requires deep partnerships that lead to knowledge building and sharing."

We have also sought to re-frame India's air quality debate around a focus on the impact of air pollution on people's health, rather than solely focusing on the concentration of pollutants in the air. As we seek to broaden awareness of this public health emergency beyond India's northern regions, our work will be grounded in rigorous scientific research while acknowledging the need for decentralised policymaking.

Similarly, we have been exploring the institutional framework for climate action – including the potential framing of a climate law – for India that prioritises low-carbon development opportunities over a strictly regulatory approach to greenhouse gas emissions. Through long-standing partnerships, we have been collaborating with states to enhance their capacities and expertise on facilitating India's energy transition. This year's annual report elaborates on these initiatives.

Our formal launch event on March 19 at the India International Centre in New Delhi was a landmark for our energetic young team. Attendance at the event was beyond capacity, with more than 250 participants who enthusiastically engaged with our panel of interdisciplinary experts, debating ways of laying the groundwork for India's sustainable future. We also introduced a distinctive logo and design identity, released our website, and published papers outlining how we envision each of our focus areas unfolding over the coming years.

SFC's promise lies in our young, intellectually creative, socially committed, and dynamic team. They are guided by an able leadership group who work together in the spirit of collegiality and mutual respect, while achieving excellence in their own fields. The SFC team spans diverse academic disciplines and professional backgrounds. I invite you to explore the team details in the following section.

Establishing a new organisation takes a community. Many peers, funders, interlocutors from government, business and civil society, and students have signalled their support and good wishes for SFC in many ways. These positive sentiments have powered the group forward and we are grateful to all our well-wishers.

As our team continues to grow and our research and engagement deepen, I look forward to collaborating closely with colleagues on research and policy initiatives as I transition to a role as Visiting Senior Fellow, while continuing to support the organisation as Chair of the SFC Advisory Council.

Warm regards,
Navroz K Dubash

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Navroz K Dubash'.

Contents

Team, Board Members and Advisory Council	Highlights from our launch event	Adaptation and Resilience	Publications	Speaking engagements	Academic and policy engagements; partnerships and collaborations
06-07	08-11	12-15	28-29	30-31	32-33
Climate Policy	Energy Transitions	Environmental Governance and Policy	Featured in the media	Note on our branding and design	Financial information
16-19	20-23	24-27	34-35	36-37	38-39

Team

(as of September 2024)



ADMINISTRATION

Bushra Mustufa

Assistant (Former)

Chayanika Sarmah

Manager

COMMUNICATIONS

Sonali Verma

Lead

ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE

Aditya Valiathan Pillai

Fellow and Coordinator

Shreya Shekhar

Research Associate (Former)

Ashwini K Swain

Fellow

Sarada Prasanna Das

Associate Fellow

Ishan Kukreti

Programme Lead

Tamanna Dalal

Research Associate

Catherine Ayallore

Senior Research Associate

Suravee Nayak

Associate Fellow (Former)

CLIMATE POLICY

Aman Srivastava

Fellow and Coordinator

Navroz K Dubash

Visiting Senior Fellow

Abinaya Sekar

Senior Research Associate (Former)

Bhargav Krishna

Convenor, SFC, and Coordinator

Easwaran J Narassimhan

Fellow and Coordinator

Nikita Shukla

Research Associate

Annanya Mahajan

Senior Research Associate

Ishita Srivastava

Research Associate

Simran Agarwal

Senior Research Associate

Arunesh Karkun

Senior Research Associate

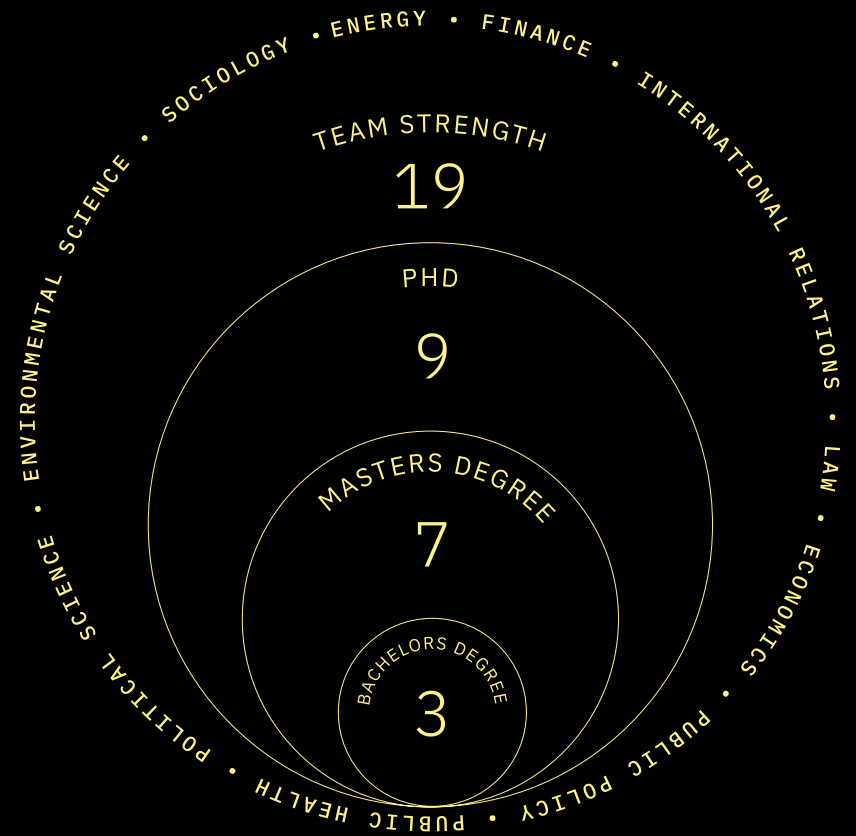
Nazneen

Senior Research Associate

Shibani Ghosh

Visiting Fellow

ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE AND POLICY



BOARD MEMBERS (as of September 2024)

Gopal Sankaranarayanan

Senior Advocate | Supreme Court of India

Moutushi Sengupta

Chief of Capital Mobilisation | Asian Venture Philanthropy Network

Ashwini K Swain

Bhargav Krishna

Easwaran J Narassimhan

ADVISORY COUNCIL (as of September 2024)

Navroz K Dubash

Chair

Mukund Rajan

Chairperson | ECube Investment Advisors

Sharachchandra Lele

Distinguished Fellow | ATREE

Aparna Uppaluri

Senior Philanthropy Advisor

Nyrika Holkar

Executive Director | Godrej and Boyce

Shloka Nath

CEO | India Climate Collaborative

Arati Kumar-Rao

Writer, photographer and National Geographic Explorer

Shantanu Dixit

Member | Prayas (Energy Group)

Soumya Swaminathan

Chairperson | MS Swaminathan Research Foundation

Harald Winkler

Professor | University of Cape Town

19TH
MAR
2024
6.00PM
ONWARDS

LAUNCHING
**SUSTAINABLE
FUTURES
COLLABORATIVE**

at the Multi-Purpose Hall,
India International Centre, New Delhi

Opening remarks
by N.K. Singh
CHAIR | 15TH FINANCE
COMMISSION

**Building the foundations
for a sustainable future**

PANELISTS

Kamal Kishore
MEMBER AND HEAD OF
DEPARTMENT | NATIONAL DISASTER
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

**Kalpana
Balakrishnan**
DEAN (RESEARCH) & DIRECTOR,
WHO-COLLABORATING CENTRE, SRIHER

Aparna Uppaluri
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER |
TATA TRUSTS

Launch Event

We were delighted to have a packed house of

250+ people
in attendance

We also made our first strides in making our work accessible to persons with disabilities by offering sign language interpretation and having ramps for wheelchair access. In addition, we used environmentally friendly branding materials such as reusable cotton banners.



APARNA UPPALURI

“Philanthropy actively supports and funds the third space outside of the state and markets, where what I term the generation of ‘uncomfortable knowledge’ occurs. Philanthropy must have the willingness to continue engaging within this space of uncomfortable knowledge.”



KALPANA BALAKRISHNAN

“Climate change will challenge our traditional view that societal progress and disease patterns follow a linear path from developing to developed status.”

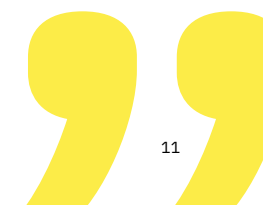


KAMAL KISHORE

“The two major shifts that need to occur to make India’s future sustainable:

Investment in science to prepare for extreme events, which will pay off;

Creating ownership at local levels for climate resilience.”





NK Singh (Chair of the 15th Finance Commission) talked about structuring financial pipelines and institutions to support Indian climate policymaking.



Bhargav Krishna laid out the foundational goals of SFC.



The panel discussion was an interdisciplinary effort with participants from the public health, philanthropy, and disaster management sectors, reflecting on the nature of the climate, energy, and environment policy challenges in India.



Registration before the event.

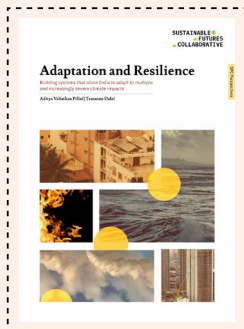
Building systems that allow India to adapt to multiple and increasingly severe climate impacts

India's development hinges on managing a range of intensifying climate impacts: extreme heat, an eroding coastline, melting glaciers, and urban flooding, among others. These threats will impose upon the lives of an already vulnerable population by diminishing their incomes, increasing healthcare costs, and stifling intergenerational progress.

The scale and complexity of the climate crisis demands a re-evaluation of what India's economy and society need to function effectively as the crisis worsens.

Our research aims to steer this system-scale change by identifying key policy and institutional gaps in India's adaptation efforts and propose sustainable solutions to fill these gaps.

We released a [Perspectives Paper](#) that expands on how an evolving state like ours can shape itself to respond to these new threats.



Understanding and addressing health impacts of extreme heat

India currently lacks crucial health data points necessary to understand the impacts of heat on human health. There is likely significant underreporting of deaths attributable to extreme heat, insufficient data on heat-related mortality and morbidity, and a notable research gap in the field of heat-health.

A study co-authored by Bhargav Krishna in the journal *Environment International* goes some way to addressing this gap by piecing together city-level increases in mortality due to extreme heat across 10 major cities in India in different agro-climatological zones. It found over a thousand excess deaths attributable to extreme heat and heatwaves annually, and that heat deaths begin occurring at much lower temperatures than previously imagined. The results of this work highlighted the need to declare heatwaves based on lower and more localised temperature thresholds than currently in place.

The study was done in collaboration with environmental and public health experts across national and global institutions such as the Ashoka University, the Harvard and Boston University Schools of Public Health, and others.

The study's findings have been used to inform the National Disaster Management Authority's (NDMA) ongoing efforts to develop a comprehensive heatwave preparedness framework.



At the CAFÉ Climate and Health Conference, organised by Harvard University's TH Chan School of Public Health in February, Aditya Valiathan Pillai stressed on the need to advance towards better health outcomes in a warmer world.

“We need critical health data for implementing localised solutions, along with enhancing the capacity of local governments to address the health impacts of heat,”

Aditya

Strengthening India's Heat Action Plans through robust financial support

Indian Heat Action Plans (HAPs) contain a welcome diversity of adaptation solutions spanning many sectors, but fail to identify viable sources of finance to implement these. An earlier study by our team found that only two of the 37 state, district and city heat action plans reviewed had cited specific sources of finance for at least some of their interventions.

We have been working to identify pathways through which HAPs can secure financial support, such as using existing policy structures for heat resilience projects. At the NDMA's national workshop on heatwaves this year, Aditya spoke about how some of the financing problems can be fixed using Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

“There are strong overlaps between these well-funded schemes and HAP solutions.”



NDMA + SFC

We are currently working with the NDMA and civil society partners on a national framework to enable funds from the 15th Finance Commission to support heatwave preparedness efforts in states, districts, and cities. Aditya is a member of the Technical Advisory Group for the framework.

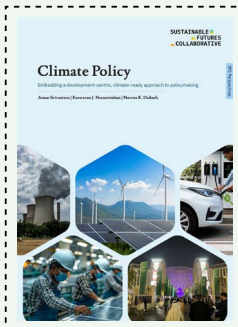
The framework could enhance long-term heat resilience at subnational levels, empowering them as pivotal implementers of climate adaptation strategies.

Embedding a development-centric climate-ready approach to policy making

As a developing country, India can currently choose from a range of possible future development pathways while addressing the challenges presented by climate change. In its choices, it must ensure equitable and sustainable growth in employment, incomes, and quality of life, while navigating shifting global geopolitical landscapes and maintaining its economic competitiveness.

We approach India's climate challenge from the lens of aligning climate policies with its development goals, and recognising the synergies and trade-offs inherent in policy choices.

Through this, we aim to inform the design of a development-centric, climate-ready approach to policy-making at the national and subnational levels. Our research is directed towards long-term structural change by shifting discourse on the foundations of our approach to climate action, building stronger institutions at the national and state levels, and aligning conditions for implementation. Read our [Perspectives Paper](#) for more on this.



Charting strategies for green industrialisation

More firmly situating India on a low-carbon development pathway requires implementing strategic green industrial policy packages that prioritise environmental objectives alongside the social and economic goals of traditional industrial policies, strengthening institutional frameworks to support the design and implementation of these policies, and ensuring financial support where it's needed. This requires national, subnational, and international capacities to design and implement these policies effectively.

Our work in the past year has focused on understanding the potential policy strategies for India to pursue its green industrial ambitions.

Easwaran J Narassimhan and Ashwini K Swain wrote a chapter on 'Green Industrial Policy for India's Energy Transition' in the book *Powering India's Future: Towards a People-Positive Energy Transition* (Observer Research Foundation, 2023) that serves as a primer on what a green industrial policy is, includes experiences in other countries, and the challenges and opportunities that lie in India's energy transition. They write that the next three to five decades are crucial for India to make significant strides in the innovation and commercialisation of emerging clean technologies to reap economic benefits from decarbonisation.

Additionally, Easwaran co-authored an article, with colleagues at The Fletcher School, Tufts University, in the journal *Environmental Research Letters* on 'Strategies for green industrial and innovation policy—an analysis of policy alignment, misalignment, and realignment around dominant designs in the EV sector'. The paper examines how technology-push and demand-pull policies can position a country to lead in clean energy innovation as new designs replace older technologies. It introduces a new analytical framework for green industrial policy, focusing on the alignment, misalignment, and intentional misalignment of policies. We will continue our research collaboration on green industrial policies with Tufts University.

We are also pursuing collaborations with the Grantham Research Institute at the London School of Economics on a project to understand the opportunities and barriers to decarbonising the Indian steel sector.



Designing climate legislation tailored to India's context

Implementing a low-carbon development pathway also requires robust institutions at national and subnational levels. However, Indian climate institutions so far have not fully formed into a cohesive framework capable of addressing critical governance challenges such as strategic capacity, coordination, and consensus-building.

We have been at the forefront of highlighting the need for a suitable climate governance architecture that is also aligned with the nuances of Indian federalism to improve its effectiveness. We have been engaging policymakers in state governments, MoEFCC and Niti Aayog to discuss these ideas. For example, we have been advocating that climate legislation, tailored to the Indian context, is worth considering.

In his *Science Magazine* 'Expert Voices' column, Navroz K Dubash elaborated on this perspective. He wrote that a framework law on climate change should be rooted in national contexts rather than entirely built on templates.

Navroz argued that in countries, such as India, where politics are embedded in local development concerns such as job creation or environmental issues, an enabling approach to climate law may be more effective than a purely regulatory approach.



SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Easwaran spoke at several events at the UN Climate Change Conference in Dubai.



At a discussion on 'Accelerating the Net Zero Transition in India', he spoke about the need for a climate law in India that's less regulatory and more enabling in terms of being a guiding force for various ministries.

At a discussion on 'Revamping Innovation Systems for Climate Action', he talked about the need for R&D investments in clean energy as well as materials and components for industrial decarbonisation.

He was also a speaker at events organised by the Potsdam Institute, Tufts University, The Inter-American Development Bank Group, and others.

IN THE MEDIA



We also engaged with the media to unpack outcomes of the climate conference. Navroz was on *NDTV's* 'Left, Right & Centre' to discuss the COP28 declaration, which called on countries to 'transition away' from fossil fuels. He also spoke on *DD India's* 'Indian Diplomacy' show on COP28.

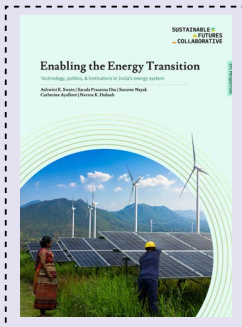
Rethinking the configuration of technology, politics and institutions to build a 21st century energy system

India has positioned itself as a frontrunner in the global energy transition by setting ambitious near-term targets for clean energy, crucial for achieving its commitment to net-zero emissions by 2070. In a developing country context, the transition from fossil to renewable energy presents several opportunities—potential for energy self-sufficiency, low-cost power to meet welfare demands, as well as a competitive and job-creating green industrialisation. At the same time, it comes with risks to stability of energy supply and disruptions in socio-political patterns in the energy system, along with greater demand for financial and infrastructure investments.

Managing this will require fundamental shifts in how technology, politics and institutions are structured around Indian energy.

Our work aims to understand these shifts and suggests priorities for strategic planning, developing institutional capacities, and refining governance processes to enable a smooth transition to a 21st century energy system.

Our [Perspectives Paper](#) further expands on this.



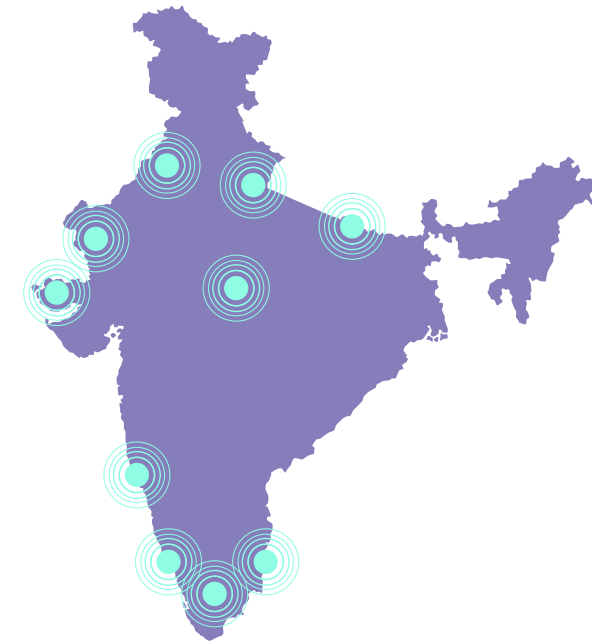
Energy transition preparedness in Indian states

India's energy transition depends on its state level actions and achievements. While the Centre sets national targets and incentives, achieving these goals depends largely on how they align with state priorities and capabilities.

Our work aims to assess India's energy transition through its states' preparedness. Our objective is to draw attention to the diverse priorities, capacities, and opportunities at the state level within the national energy policy discourse. By doing so, we aim to facilitate evidence-based policy decisions that can accelerate the scale and pace of India's energy transition in a pragmatic manner.

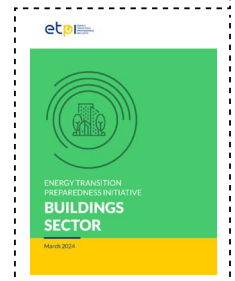
Our joint initiative with Prayas (Energy Group) and the World Resources Institute India – the Energy Transition Preparedness Initiative (ETPI) – provides a state-level framework to assess plans, actions, and governance processes towards an energy transition.

ETPI applies an indicator based framework to provide comparative insights into energy transition trends and practices in three energy-intensive sectors – electricity, buildings and transport – across 10 Indian states, viz. Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh.



ETPI will conduct periodic studies to analyse the progress made, processes followed and critical gaps at the state level. The first round of studies analyse state preparedness in 2020-21, and identify what works and in what context.

We have also initiated a series of engagements at the state and national levels to present these findings and identify state-specific priorities. In 2024-25, in addition to these engagements, we will conduct a second round of studies to map the developments and changes since FY2021.



Planning for a just and people-centric energy transition

The just transition discourse in India brings together three narratives: considerations of India's future energy needs and the importance of coal in meeting them; global pressure for accelerated coal phasedown; and civil society efforts to plan for the social costs of a transition.

The challenge is to frame it appropriately in an Indian context, given India's current and persistent lock-in to fossil dependencies at multiple scales.

Our work seeks to provide a better understanding of the dependencies in coal economies and on fossil revenues, thereby contributing to an Indian approach to a just energy transition. Simultaneously, we seek to broaden the conversation on just transition from the narrow, albeit very important, agenda of managing the social costs of transition, to the broader discussion of the economic transformation opportunities and challenges.

In the past year, our work has actively engaged with gender issues in coal communities and on envisioning a gender-transformative approach to the transition in India's coal states.

Suravee Nayak and Ashwini K Swain presented this work in a virtual symposium on gender and energy research in the University of Twente, Netherlands.

At the International Conference on Sustainable Transition for Future-Ready Jharkhand, Suravee emphasised the importance of using an intersectionality-informed framework to acknowledge and represent women in the coal labour force, advocating for their active participation as agents in the energy transition. She also spoke at a discussion on delivering a gender-inclusive climate transition in India, organised by the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment and the LSE Gender Studies Department.



Our work in this area also seeks to find ways to deliver the benefits of clean energy directly to the poorest first and promote the productive use of energy in rural areas.

Sarada Prasanna Das and Ashwini presented a paper on the opportunities in solarising agricultural energy supply at a seminar on 'Looking beyond income paradigms: Bringing rural dignity in India policy discourse' by the Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and Bharat Krishak Samaj. The paper, to be published as a book chapter, highlights the transformative opportunities for rural economy and resilience.

On an NDTV debate, Ashwini spoke about how the PM Surya Ghar Yojana could enable a necessary shift from recurring consumption subsidy (monthly tariff subsidies) to one-time infrastructure subsidy (one-time financial support for solar rooftop systems) by targeting low-income households.

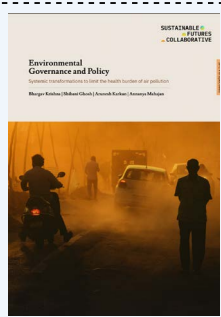
Limiting the threat of environmental pollution through health-focused, systemic transformations

Air pollution is the largest risk factor for ill-health and premature deaths in India, contributing to 2.1 million deaths in 2021. The economic impact from lost productivity due to premature deaths and increased morbidity caused by air pollution is significant. Air pollution is a national emergency and there is a long way to go before India achieves acceptable air quality levels.

We view reducing air pollution not only as a technical challenge, but also as a structural one that requires rethinking our approach and restructuring the institutions that are tasked with addressing it.

This means addressing the root causes rather than the symptoms, recognising air pollution as a problem in both rural and urban India, strengthening our regulatory bodies, and prioritising public health in air pollution policies.

Our [Perspectives Paper](#) outlines reforms that we think could put India at the forefront of action on air pollution globally, while considering how to prioritise action within a limited fiscal and policy space.



Laying out a health-centred approach to air pollution policy making

Health protection is cited as a fundamental reason for the existence of our environmental laws, and yet our policy apparatus lacks health science and epidemiological expertise that could aid in meeting this objective. Over the past year, our efforts have centred on thinking through a health-focused air pollution strategy for India – one that integrates health expertise throughout every stage, from policy development to evaluation.

A recent paper, co-authored by Bhargav Krishna, proposed a framework for updating India's current and future air quality standards to align with the latest scientific understanding of air pollution's health impacts. Suggestions include the formation of a scientific review committee comprising experts from health institutions to keep track of new scientific developments on air pollution, and institutionalising periodic reviews to take stock of new evidence and align standards much more closely with the published science. This paper, using the example of air quality standards, aims to illustrate what a health-centred approach to air pollution policy making could look like.

Bhargav presented this work at the 'expert talk series' by the IIT-Delhi's Centre of Excellence for Research on Clean Air.

Upcoming research in this area aims to broaden the national evidence base on the health impacts of air quality. We also seek to enhance collaboration with policymakers to shape the next generation of air quality reforms.

“Approaching air pollution from a health perspective would fundamentally alter our policy approach – prioritising pollutants such as ammonia or black carbon rather than an exclusive focus on PM, setting stricter air quality index cut-offs, and enabling earlier implementation of emergency air pollution action plans,”

Bhargav

Public engagement on the need for holistic solutions to air pollution

Delhi recorded the most polluted December in 2023 in the last five years, according to data by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. But already in November, pollution levels were 'severe', leading to prolonged school closures. In *Scroll*, Arunesh Karkun and our former colleague Abinaya Sekar co-wrote an article on how the decision to close schools, like many other air quality management measures, lacks a rational basis in science.

We also engaged with both national and global media on the need for long-term and scientific solutions, as well as sustained and year-round attention to India's smog problem. Bhargav Krishna spoke to the *Financial Times*, the *BBC*, *NPR* and *Mongabay India*, among others, on this topic.

Bhargav also addressed students at the Ashoka University's Young India Fellowship programme on how different

cities around the world have approached the challenge of air pollution, exploring it through the perspectives of art and culture. He spoke about what makes Delhi's pollution a unique problem, and what lessons India could take as it charts its own course to clean air.

At a discussion at the Chintan Environmental Research and Action Group, an organisation working on environmental sustainability,

Annanya Mahajan spoke how the current air quality governance landscape can be improved by building technical and absorptive capacities of our pollution control boards and urban local bodies.

AQI
348

AQI
468

AQI
241

AQI
220

AQI
333



School students wearing masks in Rohtak. | PTI

P U B L I C A T I O N S

1. **Perspectives on Environmental Governance and Policy: Systemic Transformations to Limit the Health Burden of Air Pollution**
Krishna, Bhargav, Shibani Ghosh, Arunesh Karkun, and Annanya Mahajan

SFC PERSPECTIVES. NEW DELHI, INDIA: SUSTAINABLE FUTURES COLLABORATIVE, MARCH 18, 2024
2. **Perspectives on Adaptation and Resilience: Building Systems That Allow India to Adapt to Climate Impacts**
Pillai, Aditya Valiathan, and Tamanna Dalal

SFC PERSPECTIVES. NEW DELHI, INDIA: SUSTAINABLE FUTURES COLLABORATIVE, MARCH 18, 2024
3. **Perspectives on Climate Policy: Embedding a Development-Centric, Climate-Ready Approach to Policymaking**
Srivastava, Aman, Easwaran J Narassimhan, and Navroz K Dubash

SFC PERSPECTIVES. NEW DELHI, INDIA: SUSTAINABLE FUTURES COLLABORATIVE, MARCH 18, 2024
4. **Enabling the Energy Transition: Technology, Politics & Institutions in India's Energy System**
Swain, Ashwini K, Sarada Prasanna Das, Suravee Nayak, and Catherine Ayallore

SFC PERSPECTIVES. NEW DELHI, INDIA: SUSTAINABLE FUTURES COLLABORATIVE, MARCH 18, 2024
5. **The Buildings Sector: A Study on Transition Preparedness in Ten Indian States (2020–2021)**
ETPI

ENERGY TRANSITION PREPAREDNESS INITIATIVE. WRI INDIA, PRAYAS (ENERGY GROUP), SUSTAINABLE FUTURES COLLABORATIVE MARCH 1, 2024
6. **Design National Framework Climate Laws to Enable Low-Carbon Resilient Transformation**
Dubash, Navroz K

SCIENCE 383, NO. 6684 FEBRUARY 15, 2024: EADO0317
[HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1126/SCIENCE.ADO0317](https://doi.org/10.1126/SCIENCE.ADO0317)
7. **Impact of Heatwaves on All-Cause Mortality in India: A Comprehensive Multi-City Study**
Bont, Jeroen de, Amruta Nori-Sarma, Massimo Stafoggia, Tirthankar Banerjee, Bhargav Krishna, et al

ENVIRONMENT INTERNATIONAL 184 FEBRUARY 1, 2024: 108461
[HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1016/J.ENVINT.2024.108461](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envint.2024.108461)
8. **Strategies for Green Industrial and Innovation Policy—an Analysis of Policy Alignment, Misalignment, and Realignment around Dominant Designs in the EV Sector**
Narassimhan, Easwaran, Zdenka Myslikova, and Kelly Sims Gallagher

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH LETTERS 19, NO. 1 DECEMBER 2023: 014029
[HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1088/1748-9326/AD101E](https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/AD101E)
9. **Why Closing Schools Does Not Protect Children from Air Pollution**
Sekar, Abinaya, and Arunesh Karkun

SCROLL.IN, NOVEMBER 28, 2023
10. **Green Industrial Policy for India's Energy Transition**
Narassimhan, Easwaran J, and Ashwini K Swain

POWERING INDIA'S FUTURE: TOWARDS A PEOPLE-POSITIVE ENERGY TRANSITION. NEW DELHI, INDIA: OBSERVER RESEARCH FOUNDATION, 2023
11. **Uneven and Combined Development and the Politics of Labour in an Eastern Indian Coalfield: Shifts and Changes from Late Colonialism to Neoliberalism**
Nayak, Suravee

INDUSTRIAL LABOUR IN AN UNEQUAL WORLD: ETHNOGRAPHIC PERSPECTIVES ON UNEVEN AND COMBINED DEVELOPMENT EDITED BY CHRISTIAN STRÜMPPELL AND MICHAEL HOFFMANN, 137-156. BERLIN, BOSTON: DE GRUYTER OLDENBOURG, 2023
[HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1515/9783111311418-008](https://doi.org/10.1515/9783111311418-008)



Speaking engagements



ADITYA
VALIATHAN
PILLAI



ANNANYA
MAHAJAN

15 FEBRUARY 2024

'Air pollution policy'

Chintan Environmental Research and Action Group



BHARGAV
KRISHNA

30 NOVEMBER 2023

'Donora to delhi: a history of air pollution and health through cities, culture and policy'

Young India Fellowship, Ashoka University

6 DECEMBER 2023

'What would it mean to centre health in air pollution policy?'

CERCA (Arun Duggal Centre of Excellence for Research in Climate Change and Air Pollution), IIT-Delhi

25 JANUARY 2024

'Why air pollution remains electorally non-salient in Indian politics'

Centre for Policy Research's discussion on 'How India Votes'



EASWARAN J
NARASSIMHAN

2 DECEMBER 2023

'How to raise ambition? New research on deepening emission cuts and enhancing economic opportunities'

Potsdam Institute and The Fletcher School, Tufts University

30 NOVEMBER 2023

'Just adaptation in the context of heatwaves'

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi and Curtin University, Australia

6 FEBRUARY 2024

'Heat health decision-making in South Asia: current status and gaps'

CAFÉ Climate and Health Conference organised by Harvard University's TH Chan School of Public Health

13-14 FEBRUARY 2024

'Financing heat action plans'

National Disaster Management Authority's national workshop



AMAN
SRIVASTAVA

20 MARCH 2024

'India's climate and energy commitments'

Australia High Commission and the Council on Energy, Environment and Water

1 DECEMBER 2023

'Climatescanner: An innovative assessment of national government actions on climate change'

INTOSAI Working Group on Environmental Auditing and Brazilian Federal Court of Accounts

4 DECEMBER 2023

'ClimateScanner: An innovative assessment on climate financing'

INTOSAI Working Group on Environmental Auditing and The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Group

3 DECEMBER 2023

'Raising ambition through green growth and equity'

ICM Mexico and Tufts University

5 DECEMBER 2023

'Accelerating the net zero transition in india'

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank

7 DECEMBER 2023

'Revamping innovation systems for climate action'

Indiaspora Climate Action Forum



NAVROZ
K DUBASH

7 FEBRUARY 2024

'Can development be innocent of climate consideration'

World Bank South Asia Region (SAR) Equitable Growth, Finance and Institutions (EFI) Retreat in Bangkok



SARADA
PRASANNA DAS

29 JANUARY 2024

along with Ashwini K Swain.

'Re-powering rural dignity: envisioning a rural transformation through energy transition'

Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University and Bharat Krishak Samaj



SURAVEE
NAYAK

29 FEBRUARY 2024

'Delivering a gender-inclusive climate transition in India'

Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment and the LSE Gender Studies Department

8 FEBRUARY 2024

'Moving beyond strategies: the gender factor in the dynamics of energy entrepreneurship'

World Sustainable Development Summit

14-15 FEBRUARY 2024

'Gender and just transition'

International Conference on Sustainable Transition for Future-Ready Jharkhand

7 DECEMBER 2023

along with Ashwini K Swain.

'Gender and Just Transition Discourse in India: Can Energy Transition Transform Women's Status and Role in Coal Economies?'

University of Twente, Netherlands

Academic engagements

Aman Srivastava

VISITING FACULTY	GUEST LECTURER	CO-SUPERVISOR
<p>AUGUST 2023 ‘Climate Change and Public Policy’ and ‘Climate Finance’ at Kautilya School of Public Policy, Hyderabad</p>	<p>NOVEMBER 2023 ‘Sustainable energy: enabling net zero emissions’ at IIT Kanpur</p>	<p>JANUARY 2024 Capstone project on just transitions <i>in the steel sector of India</i></p>

Ashwini K Swain

DESIGNER & TEACHER	DESIGNER & TEACHER	CO-EDITOR IN CHIEF
<p>JANUARY - MARCH 2024 Core course on ‘Natural Resource Governance and Energy Transition’ at Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Hyderabad</p>	<p>MARCH 2024 Coal Policy in India at NTPC School of Business, Noida</p>	<p>JANUARY 2024-27 Appointed Co-editor in Chief of <i>the Climate Policy journal</i></p>

Navroz K Dubash



Aman Srivastava at the Kautilya School of Public Policy, Hyderabad

Partnerships collaborations

PRAYAS (ENERGY GROUP) AND THE WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE INDIA

on the Energy Transition Preparedness Initiative (ETPI) which provides a state-level framework to assess plans, actions, and governance processes towards an energy transition.

IIT DELHI

on The Climate Futures Project which presents a common framework to assess, compare and interpret the results of energy-emissions modelling studies in India.

THE FLETCHER SCHOOL OF TUFTS UNIVERSITY

for research on green industrial policies, including co-publishing a journal article in *Environmental Research Letters*.



Policy engagement

The Adaptation and Resilience team is working with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) on a national framework to enable funds from the 15th Finance Commission to support heatwave preparedness efforts in states, districts, and cities. Aditya is a member of the Technical Advisory Group for the framework.

Featured in the media



THEPRINT

‘Heatwaves are invisible yet pervade every aspect of society’

Aditya Valiathan Pillai

9 MAR 2024

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

‘South By Southeast: Dirty Air – What Can S Asia Learn From SE Asia?’

Bhargav Krishna

21 FEB 2024

NDTV

‘Is Rooftop Solar For Everyone?’

Ashwini K Swain

16 FEB 2024

INDIA DEVELOPMENT REVIEW

‘Connecting the dots: Systems thinking for climate solutions’

Aman Srivastava

13 FEB 2024

WTF PODCAST BY NIKHIL KAMATH

‘WTF is Climate Change?’

Navroz K Dubash

8 FEB 2024

NDTV

‘Landmark Deal Struck In Dubai To Reduce Fossil Fuel Use’

Navroz K Dubash

14 DEC 2023

NPR

‘Can anything stop the toxic smog of New Delhi?’

Bhargav Krishna

6 DEC 2023

DD INDIA

‘Indian Diplomacy: International Climate Talks’

Navroz K Dubash

2 DEC 2023

FINANCIAL TIMES

‘Delhi turns to artificial rain to ease air pollution crisis’

Bhargav Krishna

17 NOV 2023

MONGABAY

‘To tackle air pollution, scale up monitoring, factor in health and stop ad hoc management say experts’

Bhargav Krishna

10 NOV 2023

BBC NEWS HOUR

‘What are the public health consequences of India’s smog?’

Bhargav Krishna

6 NOV 2023

FINANCIAL TIMES

‘India’s dream of green energy runs into the reality of coal’

Ashwini K Swain

25 SEP 2023

CLIMATE HOME NEWS

‘Why India is rebuffing a coal-to-clean deal with rich nations’

Ashwini K Swain

13 SEP 2023

Branding and design

DESIGNED BY

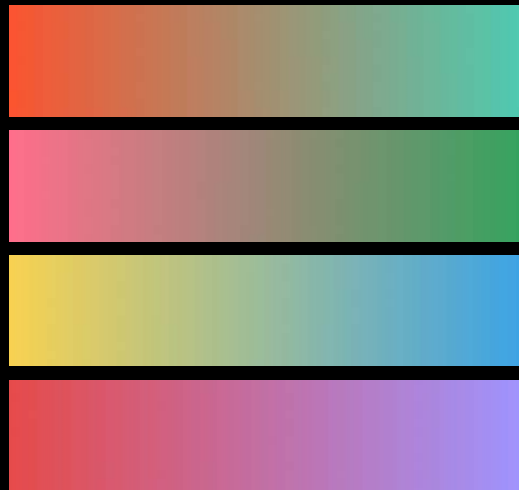
P / N G
P • N G

When designing SFC's logo and identity, we wanted to highlight three key aspects: our young and vibrant team, our aim to build a more sustainable future for India, and our role in foregrounding effective frameworks for climate action within the ecosystem. We collaborated with Studio Ping Pong, who brought our vision to life and continue to help us explore how design can advance our research goals.

Our logo features the trajectory of a rising sun, symbolising time, possibilities, and solar energy—an abundant, clean resource. It represents hope, longevity, and energy—central themes that resonate with SFC's mission. We chose natural colours and gradients to reflect global warming and our dedication to a brighter, sustainable future.

The SFC logo was featured on Brand New, a popular design-focused website that curates noteworthy logos and branding projects.

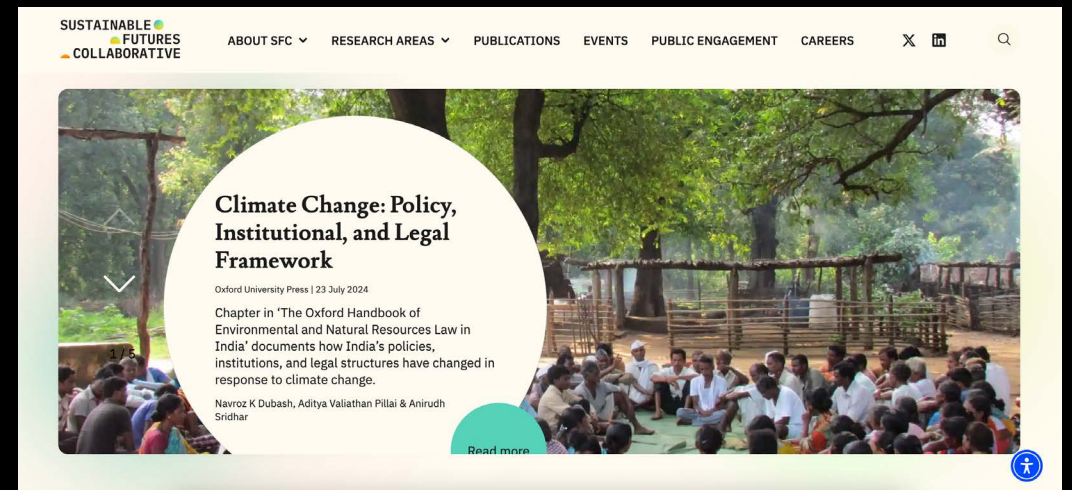
SUSTAINABLE
FUTURES
COLLABORATIVE



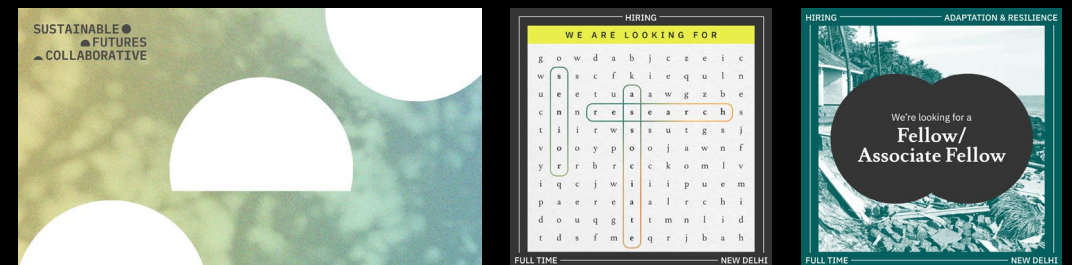
Report design



Website design and development by Studio Mesmer



Zoom backgrounds and social media posts



Financial information

SFC RESEARCH FOUNDATION
CIN U88900DL2023NPL419116
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31.03.2024

PARTICULARS	NOTE NO.	Figures as at 31.03.2024		Figures as at 31.03.2023	
		(Fig. in Rs.)	(Fig. in '00)	(Fig. in Rs.)	(Fig. in '00)
1	2	3	4	5	6
I. EQUITY AND LIABILITIES					
1 Shareholders' Funds					
(a) Share Capital	1	60,000.00	600.00	-	-
(b) Reserves and Surplus	2	22,555,711.52	225,557.12	-	-
(c) Money Received against share warrant		-	-	-	-
		22,615,711.52	226,157.12	-	-
2 Share Application Money Pending Allotment		-	-	-	-
3 Non- Current Liabilities					
(a) Long Term Borrowings	3	-	-	-	-
(b) Deferred Tax Liabilities (Net)	4	-	-	-	-
(c) Other Long Term liabilities		-	-	-	-
(d) Long-term provisions	5	173,698.00	1,736.98	-	-
		173,698.00	1,736.98	-	-
4 Current Liabilities					
(a) Short Term Borrowings	6	-	-	-	-
(b) Trade Payables		-	-	-	-
(c) Other Current Liabilities	7	202,369.96	2,023.70	-	-
(d) Short Term Provisions	8	-	-	-	-
		202,369.96	2,023.70	-	-
TOTAL		22,991,779.48	229,917.79	-	-
II. ASSETS					
1 Non Current Assets					
Property, Plant and Equipment & Intangible Assets					
(a) Assets					
(i) Property, Plant and Equipment	9	868,489.00	8,684.89	-	-
(ii) Intangible Assets		-	-	-	-
(iii) Capital Work In Progress		-	-	-	-
(iv) Intangible Assets under Development		-	-	-	-
		868,489.00	8,684.89	-	-
(b) Non Current Investments	10	-	-	-	-
(c) Deferred tax Assets (net)		-	-	-	-
(d) Long-term loans and advances	11	-	-	-	-
(e) Other non-current assets	12	-	-	-	-
		868,489.00	8,684.89	-	-
2 Current Assets					
(a) Current Investments	13	-	-	-	-
(b) Inventries		-	-	-	-
(c) Trade Receivables		-	-	-	-
(d) Cash and Cash equivalents	14	21,588,042.48	215,880.42	-	-
(e) Short Term Loan and Advances	15	-	-	-	-
(f) Other Current Assets	16	535,248.00	5,352.48	-	-
		22,123,290.48	221,232.90	-	-
TOTAL		22,991,779.48	229,917.79	-	-

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to Account 22

As per our report of even date attached
FOR MAYUR & CO.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Ulagan

CA MAYUR GUPTA
(Prop.)(M.NO.503036)(FRN-021448N)
UDIN 24503036BKELUX3019



FOR SFC RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Ashwini

ASHWINI KUMAR SWAIN
Director
DIN-07758939



BLH

KRISHNA BHARGAV
Director
DIN-10293824

PLACE : DELHI
DATE : 25/07/2024

SFC RESEARCH FOUNDATION
CIN U88900DL2023NPL419116
STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.03.2024

PARTICULARS	NOTE NO.	For the year ending on 31.03.2024		For the year ending on 31.03.2023	
		(Fig. in Rs.)	(Fig. in '00)	(Fig. in Rs.)	(Fig. in '00)
1	2	3	4	5	6
I. INCOME:					
(a) Donation Received	17	39,500,000.00	395,000.00	-	-
(b) Other Income	18	86,371.00	863.71	-	-
Total Revenue		39,586,371.00	395,863.71	-	-
II. EXPENSES:					
(a) Utilization On Programmes And Activities	19	14,278,401.00	142,784.01	-	-
(b) Finance Cost	20	1,620.00	16.20	-	-
(c) Depreciation and Amortisation Expenses	9	173,698.00	1,736.98	-	-
(d) Other Expenses	21	2,576,940.48	25,769.40	-	-
Total Expenses		17,030,659.48	170,306.59	-	-
III. Surplus / (Deficit) Before exceptional and extraordinary items and Tax (I-II)		22,555,711.52	225,557.12	-	-
IV. Exceptional Items - Allocation to specific Fund		-	-	-	-
V. Surplus / (Deficit) Before extraordinary items and Tax (III-IV)		22,555,711.52	225,557.12	-	-
VI. Extraordinary Items		-	-	-	-
VII. Surplus / (Deficit) before tax (V-VI)		22,555,711.52	225,557.12	-	-
VIII. Tax Expenses					
(1) Current Tax		-	-	-	-
(2) Deferred Tax		-	-	-	-
Surplus (Deficit) for the period from continuing operations (VII-VIII)		22,555,711.52	225,557.12	-	-
X Surplus/(Deficit) from discontinuing operations		-	-	-	-
XI Tax expense of discontinuing operations		-	-	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit) from Discontinuing operations (after tax) (X-XI)		-	-	-	-
XIII Surplus (Deficit) for the period (IX + XII)		22,555,711.52	225,557.12	-	-
Earnings per equity share:					
(1) Basic		3,759.29	3,759.29	-	-
(2) Diluted		3,759.29	3,759.29	-	-

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to Account 22

As per our report of even date attached
FOR MAYUR & CO.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Ulagan

CA MAYUR GUPTA
(Prop.)(M.NO.503036)(FRN-021448N)
UDIN 24503036BKELUX3019



FOR SFC RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Ashwini

ASHWINI KUMAR SWAIN
Director
DIN-07758939



BLH

KRISHNA BHARGAV
Director
DIN-10293824

PLACE : DELHI
DATE : 25/07/2024

Sustainable Futures Collaborative (SFC) is an independent research organisation analysing frontier issues in climate change, energy, and the environment.

We are registered as SFC Research Foundation under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Copywriting & Editing

Sonali Verma
Bhargav Krishna

Design

Studio Ping Pong

Printing

Elegant Enterprise

✂ @SFC_India

in /Sustainablefuturescollaborative

🌐 <https://www.sustainablefutures.org/>