2nd Workshop on Biological Profiling of River Spaces

2nd Workshop on Biological Profiling of River Spaces
(New Delhi, Wednesday, October 23, 2024)
Venue: NMCG, Major Dhyan Chand Stadium

Participants

1. Dr Vinod Tare, cGanga-IIT Kanpur
2. Ms Sabita Madhvi Singh, NRCD
3. Mr Sushil Kumar Srivastava, NRCD
4. Dr Gurudas Nulkar, GIPE
5. Dr Sandeep Behra, NMCG
6. Mr Suresh Babu, WWF
7. Dr Asghar Nawab, Wetland International
8. Dr Vishal Kapoor, cGanga-IIT Kanpur
9. Dr Amber Trivedi, cGanga-IIT Kanpur
10. Dr Somajitha, cGanga-IIT Kanpur

Online Participants

1. Dr Jeyaraj Antony Johnson, WII India
2. Dr Nandini Rajamani, IISER Tirupati
3. Dr Sharda Kosankar, CSIR-NEERI
4. Dr S K Pramada, NIT Calicut
5. Mr Niyatha Mohan, NIT Calicut
6. Dr Sanjay Sing, NIT Calicut
7. Ms Sakshi Chak, IIT Hyderabad
8. Mr Azharuddin Hashmi, IIT Hyderabad
9. Mr Ajay Vikram Arvihar, NIT Raipur
10. Mr Shashikant Verma, NIT Raipur
11. Dr K Neenu, IIT Palakkad
12. Mr Nimya Narayan, IIT Palakkad
13. Mr Saivinayak Vishwanathan, IIT Palakkad
14. Dr Mayur Jain, IIT Indore
15. Dr Kiran Bala, IIT Indore
16. Ms Adrija Datta, IIT Ganghinagar
17. Mr Das Sathya Sidharth, NIT Rourkela
18. Dr Kishitij Upadhyay
19. Ms Rithu Kothari Jain
20. Mr Rahul Ramachandran, cGanga-IIT Kanpur
21. Mr Rajith K, cGanga-IIT Kanpur

Glimpses

Workshop Takeaways

1. Coordination Efforts: The GIPE and IISER Tirupati working groups will manage flora and fauna studies across all six basins.

2. Fish and Fisheries Monitoring: Dr JL Johnson from Wild Life Institute, India will oversee the assessment of fish species and fisheries, focusing on those of concern.

3. Data Collaboration:

- The Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute in Bangalore and the National Fisheries Development Board in Hyderabad will be explored on data collation for fish and fisheries.
- Dr Vishal will coordinate with representatives from both institutes to establish a work plan aligned with the project's aims.
- The convergence of all the methodologies/ studies done in isolation by different institutes need to be synchronized to achieve ultimate goal of river conservation and management.
- Create a shared repository for data and methodologies to ensure accessibility and transparency.

4. Conservation Focus: Dr Johnson emphasized:

- Identify threatened and conservational significant species of river and generate habitat suitability/ requirement for those species.
- Mapping riparian vegetation using the Riparian Vegetation Index Method for monitoring and restoration of specific section of the river.

5. Floodplain Demarcation: Dr Behera suggested a 50-year return period floodplain extent as a benchmark for evaluating river space biological forms. But ultimately agreed to be at least 5-year return period floodplain extent as a benchmark.

6. Setting Historical Goals: Goals should be based on historical data reflecting transitions due to industrialization and infrastructure changes like dams.

7. Action Plan Development: Ms Sabita Madhvi Singh recommended integrating findings into an action plan that addresses study gaps, ultimately leading to a management strategy for river conservation.