



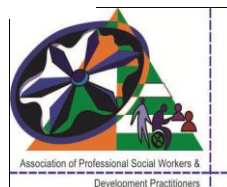
A Report on  
**World Environment Day 2015**  
05<sup>th</sup> June 2015



**State National Service Scheme Cell  
Chandigarh**






**The Climate Reality Project  
India**





**Association of Professional Social Workers and Development  
Practitioners (APSWDP)  
Chandigarh, INDIA**

# Launch of The Climate Reality Project's Online Teachers' Training Program






**Celebrating**  
**World Environment Day**  
5<sup>th</sup> June, 2015



World Environment Day 2015  
**Seven Billion Dreams.  
One Planet.  
Consume with Care**  
June 5

**Promoting Social Work Education for Sustainable Development**  
**The Climate Reality**  
**Teachers Training Programme**  
Government Model School, Sector-10, Chandigarh



**Organized By**  
**Association of Professional Social Workers &  
Development Practitioners (APSWDP)**  
**In Partnership with**  
**State National Service Scheme Cell,  
Chandigarh**  
**With Technical Support from**  
**The Climate Reality Project India**

## Background

The Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP) in partnership with The Climate Project Foundation India and State NSS Cell Chandigarh organized the launch of The Climate Reality Project's Online Teachers' Training Program on Climate Change at Government Model Senior Secondary School, Sector 10, Chandigarh on the occasion of the World Environment Day.

## Welcome Session

Dr. Sumit Arora, Convener APSWDP, also a climate leader with The Climate Reality Project, welcomed the guests and the high profile audience consisting of NSS coordinators and program officers from all the NSS units at Chandigarh among others.

## Lamp Lighting

The beginning of the event was marked by the veneration of Goddess Saraswati, where in the lamp was lightened along with offering of flowers at the statute of Maa Saraswati by the guests and some members from the audience. One of the program officers of NSS also recited a prayer for Goddess Saraswati on the occasion.



## Programme Brief

Mr. Navneet Trivedi, Programme Officer with the APSWDP, who is also a climate leader with The Climate Reality Project, read out the message of UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon on the World Environment Day whose this year theme was '**Seven Billion Dreams. One Planet. Consume with care**' and also presented a short brief on the background of launch of this program at Chandigarh.

He stated that the APSWDP is a non government, not for profit, registered country wide professional association of social workers and development practitioners with a vision to strengthen social work education and profession in development sector. He further stated that the founder of APSWDP, Mr. Vivek Trivedi was one of the eight members to draft the Youth Statement at the UNESCO ESD Youth Conference at Okayama, Japan in November 2014. Under 'Capacity building and training' component of the Aichi-Nagoya declaration at the outset of the UNESCO World Conference 2014, the association resolved to engage all the teachers in the region, among other stakeholders, for the spread of awareness on the global issue of climate change. This culminated in to the conceptualization of the launch of The Climate Reality Project's online Teachers' Training Program with the strong support of State NSS Cell and The Climate Project Foundation India.



### **Introduction on The Climate Reality Project**

A brief on The Climate Reality Project was presented by Mrs. Apinder Sodhi, who is a Management Professional with over 25 years of experience in the corporate sector and also currently the Branch Manager of Punjab and Chandigarh. She stated that The Climate Reality Project was founded and chaired by former US Vice President and Nobel laureate Al Gore and had a mandate to spread the awareness on the global issue of climate change and its mitigation.



The online teachers' training program is one of its key program which is designed to give teachers confidence in facilitating climate change and sustainability education inside and outside the classroom so that they can help young people understand the causes and consequences of climate change, bring about changes in attitudes and behaviors to reduce the severity of future climate change, and build resilience in the face of climate change that are already present.

## Presentation on Climate Change

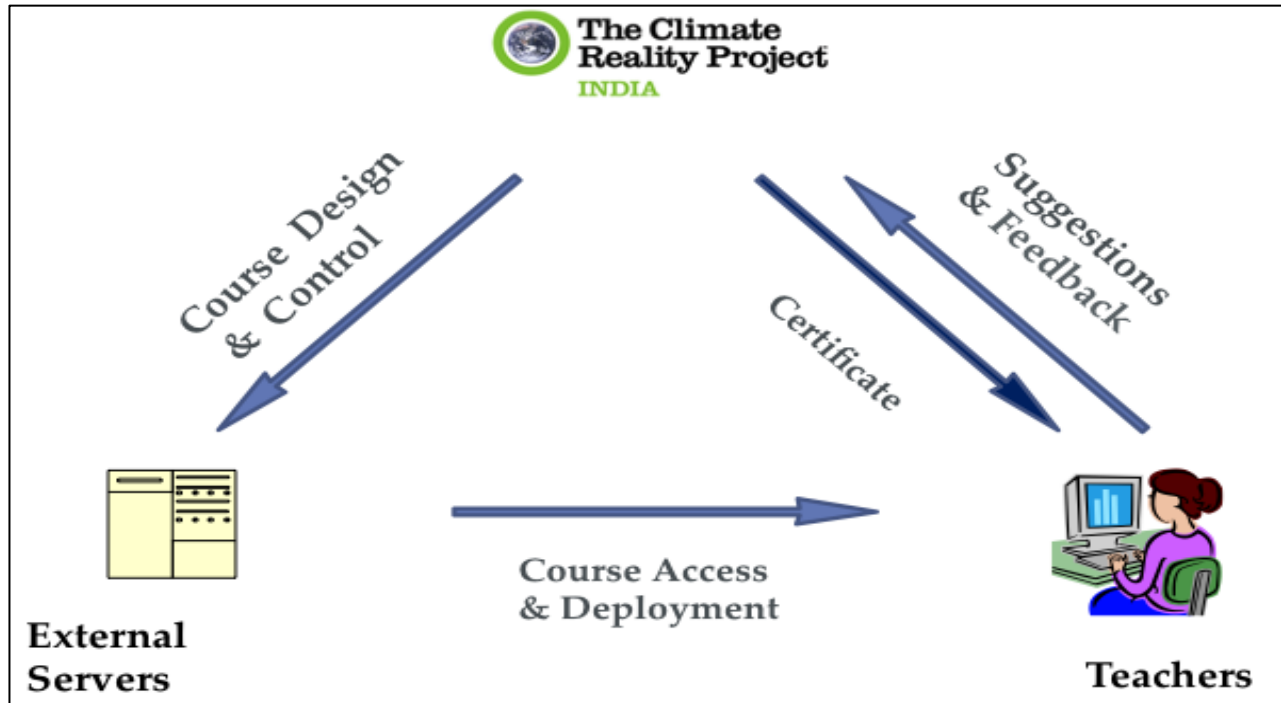
The key presentation on Climate Change and Teachers' Training Program was delivered at the event by Mr. Bhavesh Swami who is working as Manager with Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Ministry of Power, Government of India and is also District Manager Haryana & Rajasthan for The Climate Reality Project. The presentation on climate change firstly acquainted the audience with the basic science and causes behind the global warming leading to climate change. Further it illustrated various impacts of climate change on human life, other species, vegetation, land, atmosphere and water bodies etc. One of the key lessons of the presentation was to sensitize the audience towards various activities / ways that are environmentally sustainable and helps in mitigating the challenges of climate change. It includes switching over to cleaner energies like solar & wind power, using energy efficient appliances, recycling of waste, conservation of water, car pooling, plantation of more and more trees etc.



## Presentations on Teachers' Training Program

The presentation on the online teachers' training program apprised the audience about the background, structure and expectations of the program. This consists of individual learning through the online program on climate change. The interested teachers are given a unique user id and password with the help of which they log in and start the online program. On this portal a teacher learns about the **science, impacts and solutions to climate change** at her own pace (usually 15 days). A teacher who has cleared the online program is now entitled to a certificate of being a **climate aware teacher**. The school is also recognized as a **climate aware school** and becomes a part of the Indian Climate Aware School Network if a minimum of **two teachers** from a school is certified as a climate aware teacher.

After the completion of the online program the teachers will be given a resource kit to help them further the education on climate change to their students.



Both the presentations were well taken by the audience, which was evident by a long and healthy discussion among the audience and the presenters/speakers.

### Address by Chief Guest

The chief guest, Shri Bikram Rana, State Liaison Officer, State NSS Cell, Chandigarh appreciated the good efforts of APSWDP and The Climate Project Foundation in bringing out this program at Chandigarh. He assured his fullest support to the program in engaging all the NSS units and expressed his interest in extending the outreach of this program to all the NSS volunteers in the region.



## Future Plans

Mr. Karamveer Singh, Treasurer APSWDP and a Climate Leader with The Climate Reality Project briefed the audience that after the formal launch of this program on the World Environment Day, the team of climate leaders will visit all the schools/colleges one by one and make a presentation on Climate Change & Online Teachers' Training Program before all the teachers and help the interested teachers in enrollment and further guide them in completing this program.



## Exhibition on Climate Change

An exhibition on Climate Change at the venue was organized by Mr. Youdhvir Singh, a research scholar at Punjab University and also a climate leader with The Climate Reality Project.



Mr. Sharad Singh, founder member of APSWDP presented mementoes to the distinguished guests.



## Vote of Thanks

The founder and Secretary General of APSWDP, Mr. Vivek Trivedi, recited a self written poem 'Jalvayu Parivartan' (Climate Change) and expressed the vote of thanks at the end of the program. He expressed special thanks to Mr. Bikram Rana, State Liaison Officer, NSS for taking the proposal of this program very kindly.



He also expressed thanks to Mr. Aditya Pundir, Country Manager, Mrs. Apinder Sodhi, Branch Manager for Punjab & Chandigarh, Mr. Bhavesh Swami, District Manager for Haryana & Rajasthan, Ms. Padma Wangmo and Ms. Sheetal from The Climate Reality Project, the Principal Mr. Harbir Singh Anand and NSS Program Officer Dr. Priti Garg from Govt. Model Sr. Sec. School, Sector 10, Chandigarh, YES Bank, members Mr. Subrat Mishra (New Delhi), Mr. Dinesh Nagpal, Sec-10 Chandigarh branch & volunteers of APSWDP and all the participants to make this event a success.

## Plantation

After this program, a plantation drive was conducted, with the support of YES Bank, to commemorate the World Environment Day.



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