

Summary

NTP on Blue Economy: Challenges and Opportunities for Marine and Coastal Ecosystem Conservation (19.05.2025 to 23.05.2025) at iCED Jaipur

International Centre for Environment Audit & Sustainable Development (iCED) organized a National Training Programme on “Blue Economy: Challenges and Opportunities for Marine and Coastal Ecosystem Conservation” from 19th to 23rd May 2025 at its campus. A total of 35 participants from 14 field offices including 04 group officers participated in the training programme.



National Training Programme on “Blue Economy: Challenges and Opportunities for Marine and Coastal Ecosystem Conservation” from 19th to 23rd May 2025

The training programme was inaugurated by Dr. Abhishek Gupta, Director General, iCED. He extended a warm welcome to all participants of the training programme and highlighted the significance of the Blue Economy as a transformative global paradigm. This approach advocates for the sustainable utilization of ocean resources to stimulate economic growth, safeguard environmental integrity and promote social inclusion. Far beyond traditional conservation efforts, the Blue Economy charts a strategic course toward economic prosperity, ecological resilience and inclusive development through innovative and responsible practices.

The Director General of iCED highlighted that for a country like India, harnessing the vast potential of the Blue Economy requires visionary investments in innovation, robust marine conservation and inclusive development that uplifts coastal communities. However, this potential is threatened by enduring challenges like overfishing, marine pollution, climate change and weak governance. Addressing these complex issues demands integrated and forward-looking policies, deeper international collaboration and a strong commitment to ensuring that the benefits of ocean resources are shared equitably and sustainably.



Director General, iCED, Director (T&R), iCED and Dy. Director (Admn.) during the inauguration of the National Training Programme on “Blue Economy: Challenges and Opportunities for Marine and Coastal Ecosystem Conservation”.

During this five-day, experts from IA&AD and various reputed organizations like Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management (IITTM), Noida; Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu; NCCR, Chennai; The Energy and Resource Institute (TERI); Directorate of Environment and Climate Change, Kerala, National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), Chennai; Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications and Geoinformatics (BISAG-N) were invited to deliver the sessions on various aspects of Blue Economy in auditing perspective.

The teaching methods during the training programme included formal lectures and discussion sessions.

The training programme covered a comprehensive range of topics related to the Blue Economy including sustainable marine tourism, the ecological importance of mangrove ecosystems, marine pollution and water quality monitoring, and the multi-dimensional aspects of the Blue Economy. It also addressed marine conservation practices, protection of marine parks, regulatory frameworks like the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ), the impacts of climate change on marine ecosystems and the role of emerging technologies in supporting sustainable ocean development and coastal conservation.

Details of the trainers and the session(s) delivered during this training programme are as follows.

Sl. No.	Session/s	Trainer/s
1.	Marine Tourism Sector and its Sustainability in India	Dr. Jeet Dogra, Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management (IITTM), Noida
2.	Importance of Mangrove Ecosystems for Coastal Protection and Biodiversity Conservation	Dr. Kathiresan Kandasamy, Professor, Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu
3.	Measurement of Coastal Water Quality and Marine Pollution with reference to Plastic and Chemical Pollution	Dr. Pravakar Mishra, Scientist-F, NCCR, Chennai
4.	An Overview of Blue Economy: Multi-Dimensional Perspective	Dr. Asha Giriyan Hadkar, Senior Fellow, Coastal Ecology and Marine Resources Centre, TERI Goa
5.	CRZ Framework: Governance, Implementation and Future Outlook	Shri Suneel Pamidi, (IFS), Director, Directorate of Environment and Climate Change & Member Secretary, Kerala CZMA
6.	Case Study/Experience Sharing: Marine Conservation	Shri Gautam Gahlaut, Sr. AO, DGA, CE (E&SD), New Delhi
7.	Conservation of Marine Parks and Protected Areas	Dr. Deepak Samuel V, Scientist 'E', NCSCM, Chennai
8.	Understanding Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ): Compliance, Challenges, and Opportunities	Dr. Kapil Narula, Ph.D. Senior Analyst Breakthrough Agenda, Climate Champions Team, Dubai
9.	Climate Change: Its impact on Marine Fisheries and Coastal Ecosystem	Dr. Manish Anand, Senior Fellow, Resource Efficiency & Governance Division, TERI
10.	Role of Emerging Technologies in Strengthening the Blue Economy and Coastal Conversation	Dr. Vinay Thakur, Special Director General-BISAG-N

Comprehensive feedback on course designing, the time required, content, knowledge and its delivery by the resource persons and facilities available at iCED was also collected from the participants through the SAI Portal. **The average feedback of the participants is 9.4 out of 10, which is very encouraging. Session(s) on “Importance of Mangrove Ecosystems for Coastal Protection and Biodiversity Conservation” has been rated as the best session with 9.7 points.**

The training programme concluded with a valedictory session followed by Group Presentations & chaired by the Director (T&R). In his address, he extended heartfelt thanks to all participants and faculties for their participation in the programme. He underscored that fostering a responsible and resilient ocean economy hinges on our ability to monitor progress and tackle the pressing challenges confronting our oceans. He emphasized the crucial role of sustainable practices within the Blue Economy for a sustainable future.



Director (T&R) and Dy. Director (Admn.) during the valediction of the National Training Programme on “Blue Economy: Challenges and Opportunities for Marine and Coastal Ecosystem Conservation”.