



Call for Papers

Dear Madam / Sir,

Greetings from Odisha Environment Congress, 2024.

We are delighted to announce the Call for Papers for the 15th edition of the Odisha Environment Congress (OEC) to be held during 20th to 22th December, 2024 and to be hosted by Berhampur University Bhanja Bihar, Berhampur, Odisha.

As you are aware, the Odisha Environment Congress (OEC) has completed 14 years of its successful journey. The themes of the previous successive editions were Environment and Water Resources (2010), Environment and Forest (2011), Environment and Energy (2012), Environment and Agriculture (2013), Environment and Climate Change (2014), Environment: Health and Nutrition (2015), Environment: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (2016), Environment and Sustainable River Basin Management (2017), Environment and Gandhi (1018), Environment and Mining (2019), Environment and Biodiversity (2020) Environment and Pandemic (2021), Environment and Tribes (2022), Environment and Urbanization (2023). For the forthcoming 15th OEC, the theme has been decided by the organising committee as **Environment and Coast**.

The sea coast, where the land meets the ocean, is a vital and dynamic ecosystem that plays a crucial role in maintaining the health of our planet. Coastal environments, including beaches, dunes, mangroves, and coral reefs, provide numerous benefits to both humans and wildlife.

Coastal ecosystems support a rich array of biodiversity, from tiny plankton to massive blue whales. They also protect communities from storms and erosion, filter pollutants from the water, and provide livelihoods for millions of people through fishing, tourism, and other industries.

However, human activities are putting immense pressure on coastal environments. Climate change is causing sea levels to rise, leading to increased flooding, erosion, and salt water intrusion into freshwater sources. Pollution from plastics, agricultural runoff, and industrial waste harms marine life and contaminates the food chain.

Coastal development, such as building seawalls, jetties, and resorts, can disrupt natural habitats and lead to the loss of ecosystem services. Overfishing and destructive fishing practices deplete fish populations, threatening the livelihoods of communities that depend on them.

The Indian coastline has amongst the world's highest mangrove cover, rich corals and other coastal ecosystems that support a range of livelihoods underpinned by goods and services crucial for the wellbeing of communities that live on subsistence. However, the Indian coastline is amongst the world's most vulnerable to climate change impacts, including extreme temperatures, changes in precipitation patterns, increased incidence of extreme weather events, and sea-level rise, threatening the life and livelihood of millions of people. With 480 km of coastline, the geo-climatic setting of the Odisha coast is also prone to natural calamities like cyclones, storm surges, and inundation, along with changing sea levels, which indicates a higher level of coastal vulnerability.

The Stockholm Conference 1972 on the Human Environment came out with the Stockholm Declaration, and the laws and policy towards marine conservation, which basically comprised two

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broad and intimately connected categories; pollution and wildlife conservation. The 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) stressed the sustainable use of coasts and established the concept of territorial waters. Subsequently, the concept of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) was evolved, which aims to achieve sustainable development of coastal zones. Coastal regions are essential to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) given their importance for human habitation, resource provisioning, employment, and cultural practice. Therefore, the Sustainable Development Goals-14 (SDGs-14) calls for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, sea, and marine resources for sustainable development.

The OEC is going to discuss, deliberate and come up with workable solutions to meet up the above challenges during its 15th Annual Session on the theme, "Environment and Coast". The organizing committee of OEC invites research-based papers/articles from researchers, academicians, scientists, activists, practitioners, etc. on the following sub-themes, which will be published in the form of a Conference Proceedings and will be released during the inauguration of the annual event on 20nd December, 2024.

Sub-Themes:

- Coastal Ecosystems and Biodiversity
- Coastal Natural Resources, Livelihood and Economy
- Development along Coasts and its Impacts on Coastal Environment
- Climate Change Impacts on Coasts and Disasters
- Coastal Inundation, Displacement and Other Impacts
- Coastal Conservation and Management: CRZ Regulations, Issues, and Challenges

NB: The above Sub-Themes are not exclusive. The authors are free to contribute articles/papers on topics other than the given sub-themes, but within the ambit of main theme viz; 'Environment and Coast' with focus on Odisha. The Papers/Articles should not exceed 6 pages (Around 3000 words) in A4 size papers typed in 12 font of Times New Roman.

Important Dates:

Announcement of Call for Papers – **23rd Aug, 2024**

Submission of Full Papers/Articles - **25th Oct, 2024**

Feedback from Editorial Board – **1st November, 2024**

Communication for acceptance of the Papers/Articles - **10th November, 2024**

Publication of the Conference Proceedings - **15th December, 2024**

Presentation of Papers – **20th to 22nd December, 2024**

The articles / papers should be sent to send the following Emails:

odishaenvironmentcongress@gmail.com / skpalita@gmail.com / ta.ms@buodisha.edu.in ,

Contact No. Mob: 9438132897

Best regards,

Dr. Aurobinda Behera, IAS (Retd.)
Working Chairman, OEC

Dr. Tamoghna Acharyya,
Convener, OEC

Sudarsan Das
Organising Secretary, OEC

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