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STOCK-TAKING AND APPRAISAL OF
ON-LINE WEB RESOURCES
ON CLIMATE CHANGE
IN INDIA / SOUTH ASIA

Initiated and Designed by

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
Embassy of Switzerland
New Delhi – 110 021
www.swiss-cooperation.admin.ch/india/

Researched and Presented by

OneWorld Foundation India
C-5 Qutab Institutional Area
New Delhi – 110 016
<http://southasia.oneworld.net>



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**Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC**



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Stock-taking and Appraisal of On-line Web Resources on Climate Change in India / South Asia

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Please send your comments and additions to SDC India (gerolf.weigel@sdc.net, kr.viswanathan@sdc.net) and OneWorld Foundation India (naimur.rahman@oneworld.net)

For orders, please contact:

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC India)

Embassy of Switzerland

New Delhi 110 021

Phone +91 11 268 77819

Fax +91 11 268 73631

Email delhi@sdc.net

www.swiss-cooperation.admin.ch/india



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INTRODUCTION

Climate Change, as probably the biggest challenge to the human race today, may be well attributed to its global reach, impact on various sections of the society and the unpredictable magnitude of its consequences. It is this very challenge, from where there is no escape for human society except to fight.

This overarching concern has been taken seriously by Governments, civil society organisations, corporate establishments and research institutions, and each entity is today making an attempt to put their best efforts forward to deal with it. However, precarious as the issue is today, it is only a collaborative approach to working together by all stakeholders that will be the best way to address this challenge.

Talking of stakeholders, it means all humanity here, as each is a contributor to climate change, and inevitably each of us will also stand to become victims of the change. Thus there is no way forward for us, but together.

The first step towards moving together on climate change lies in exchange. This is an exchange of knowledge and know-how, and sharing what we know with others, and learning what we don't know from them. Providentially for us, this process has already started. World over we see stakeholders at their individual levels making efforts to reach out to others to inform, educate and learn on climate change, whether they be people, researchers, institutions or Governments.

The coming of the www revolution has only facilitated this process further. Now the world is interacting on the click on a button. It is encouraging to see new spaces being created online that foster the common person's education on climate change, often in debates and interactions with experts. As the world grows increasingly wired we can hope to see greater knowledge engagement on climate change online.

This booklet is an attempt to draw a preliminary idea on the ways in which climate knowledge is being assisted on the web. SDC has facilitated this exercise, in cooperation with OneWorld Foundation India.

The intent was a quick review of existing, web-based knowledge sharing platforms that will illustrate the level to which the web has reached in engaging with readers.

This is also to feed into our designing of an appropriate platform to link lessons and voices from the grassroots to international policy formulation levels. SDC is co-partnering with M S Swaminathan Research Foundation, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Development Alternatives, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and The Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR), to lead the National Policy Dialogue on Climate Change Action that has embarked in 2010 on a comprehensive process, linking lessons and voices from the grassroots to the policy and international knowledge sharing level.

This survey by OneWorld is expected to not only enrich our information on the presently available sites of reference and learning on climate change on the internet, but will also contribute to our evolving collaborative climate workspaces online.

While presenting this publication, we however acknowledge that this collection does have much scope to be further comprehensive. The contents presented are indicative of the evolving web space and we welcome your comments and additions to the same.

Gerolf Weigel

Head - Climate Change and Energy

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, India

Methodology

The research oriented assignment “Stock-taking and Appraisal of On-line Knowledge Resources on Climate Change” aims at apprising the wider development community about emerging online climate spaces, and the effective use of linkages between existing web platforms.

The approach to the study, conducted by OneWorld, involved desk and internet-based research to collate information on present web platforms and knowledge resources related to climate change in India and South Asia; and appraising their efficacy, relevance and utility from the perspective of knowledge engagement, and applicability in linking grassroots action into policy debates.

The stock-taking and appraisal approach therefore looked into the profile, ownership, and main thematic emphasis of the website, its richness & variety of content, usability, interactivity, multimedia capability and media portability, cross-linkages to other websites, status of updates, user trends, and viewership analysis, et al.

ADB

Promoting Organisation
ADB

Asian Development Bank

www.adb.org



Description

Asian Development Bank (ADB) is an international development finance institution whose mission is to help its developing member countries in Asia and the Pacific region to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of their people. ADB follows three complementary strategic agendas in its work: inclusive growth, environmentally sustainable growth, and regional integration.

Particularly ADB is taking a leadership role on the issue of climate change, which poses real threats - both economic and environmental. ADB is integrating this issue into its planning and investment, to help address the causes and consequences of climate change, and ensure continued economic growth and sustainable futures. Its sub-site on climate change provides rich information on ADB's ongoing and emerging climate change mitigation and adaptation programmes in Asia and the Pacific region.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Investment for climate change, climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, carbon funding, REDD-Plus

Other aspects

Biodiversity conservation, renewable energy and power development, forests and livelihood improvement

Thematic emphasis

ADB's website on climate change highlights its multi-pronged approach to its thematic areas which include:

- Expanding the Use of Clean Energy
- Encouraging Sustainable Transport and Urban Development
- Managing Land Use and Forests for Carbon Sequestration
- Promoting Climate-Resilient Development
- Strengthening Policies, Governance and Capacities



Richness and variety of content

The ADB website has a strong focus on both the mitigation and adaptation aspects of climate change in the Asia and Pacific region.

There is rich variety in its contents, which include news, publications, economics and statistics, multi-media, and information on its country-specific programmes.

The site has a searchable project database that allows access to ADB projects from 1966 to the present day. Altogether it presents as a valuable resource platform for serious researchers on climate policy.

Usability and interactivity

The ADB website has a clean and un-cluttered navigation structure and the content organisation is very well reflected in the visual design. There are quick links and resources supplementing the content on most pages; this enriches the reading and referencing experience of the user on the site.



Geo-focus

Asia and Pacific region

Multimedia and media portability

The website contains some good videos on climate change policy interventions. But on the overall there is ample scope to further enrich the multi-media content on the site. The site has not yet joined the social networking bandwagon and is yet to feature options for sharing and bookmarking of content.



Target audience



Environmentalists, policy makers and economic experts, regional Governments.



Status of update

The content is updated on a daily basis.

Discussion platform

There are not many interactive features for comment and contribution by readers on the ADB website. But readers can receive ADB updates through the e-notification feature on the site.



Google page rank

8/10



Bhoogyan

Promoting Organisation
OneWorld

Bhoogyan

Integrated Knowledge System on Climate Change Adaptation

www.bhoogyan.net



Description

Bhoogyan – OneWorld’s Integrated Knowledge System on Climate Change Adaptation is designed to cater to the needs of rural communities who stand as most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

This is an integrated technology platform that provides contextual knowledge on local and indigenous coping strategies to grassroots communities through multiple delivery channels, including the mobile, internet and radio. Communities in turn are able to access on-demand knowledge, based on geographical specifics and in their local languages, on crucial adaptation and risk reduction measures.

The attractively laid out Bhoogyan website presents an assortment of resources and multimedia that serve as a handy guide to climate change adaptation, for experts and beginners alike.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Agriculture, biodiversity, energy, water

Other aspects

Communication and advocacy, communities and habitat, governance and health

Thematic emphasis

With the unique idea to equip grassroots communities with appropriate adaptation strategies for climate change, Bhoogyan has been categorized under eight broad thematic segments. These include:

- Agriculture
- Biodiversity
- Governance
- Health
- Water
- Communities and habitat
- Communication and Advocacy
- Energy



Richness and variety of content

Bhoogyan is an innovative website that uses new media tools, like Web 2.0 and new mobile technology, to bring latest updates from across South Asia and the world on climate change.

The intent is to empower grassroots communities, experts, activists and policy makers, by informing them on climate problems, local adaptation strategies and global partnerships to create a climate just world.

Information is categorised under four sections – Global Dialogue, Climate News, From the Grassroots, and Knowledge Nook – and supplemented by relevant external links.

The site offers much range in content like climate search, podcasts, videos and photo essays. A well researched resource section carries topical reports of high reference value for readers on the look-out for climate solutions.

Usability and interactivity

The Bhoogyan website has been designed well for easy navigation and is equipped with an efficient internal search. The climate mobile section, aids users to access on-demand knowledge based on geographical specifics and in the local language; it also offers the feature to post queries via mobile.

Geo-focus



Bhoogyan has a pan-south Asia mandate, with an India-centric focus.

Multimedia and media portability

The Bhoogyan website has a good range of multi-media content comprising videos, audio, podcasts, and a photo gallery. Its integrated Web 2.0 approach helps to collate, summarise and deliver relevant and demand-based information in a portable manner between web-based and mobile media. The site is also updated on sharing and bookmarking across all the social networking platforms.



Target audience



Grassroots communities and intermediary organizations, policymakers, researchers, and youth groups.

Status of update



The content is updated on a daily basis.

Discussion platform



A Google map to help navigation on country specific content is a special interactive feature on the Bhoogyan site.



Google page rank
3/10

Children in a Changing Climate

Promoting Organisations
IDS, Plan, Save the Children,
UNICEF, World Vision

Children in a Changing Climate

www.childreninachangingclimate.org



Description

Children in a Changing Climate is a global action-research, advocacy and learning programme, bringing together leading research and development organisations with a commitment to share knowledge, coordinate activities, and work with children as agents of change.

The programme aims to secure children's influence in preventing and adapting to climate change at every level - from their families and communities to the United Nations climate change negotiations.

The coalition works in four areas - learning, policy, action and research – all of which are mutually supporting, and comprise a body of work and selection of projects that seek to understand and support children's voices in climate change decision-making and action. The vibrant website showcases their work through interesting content on learning and research and audio-visual multimedia.

Thematic emphasis

Underlining its commitment to effective protection and meaningful participation of children and young people on climate change, the Children in a Changing Climate website threads its thematic focus around 4 areas. These include:

- **Action** on climate change
- **Learning** by children on climate change
- **Research** to enable practitioners, policy-makers and children to take adaptation action
- **Policy** to facilitate children's campaigns

HIGHLIGHT

Securing children and young people a voice in preventing and adapting to climate change - from their communities to the UN



Richness and variety of content

The vibrant and dynamic look of the Children in a Changing Climate website highlights the child focused research and action-oriented approach of the coalition.

The site supports their effort to maximize children's learning, action and influence on climate change policy, planning and action.

It disseminates research highlighting the importance of disaster risk reduction, and climate change prevention and adaptation centered on children. The site has good amount of content on its four thematic areas; the content is organised under news, events, and publications, and tagged and linked for easy reference.

The Children's Voices section shares insights and experiences from children around the world, and provides web-links and information on better facilitating children's engagement in climate debates.

Usability and interactivity

Children in a Changing Climate has an attractively designed website. While the site is not very heavily populated with content, it manages to engage its readers through striking images and well-laid out reading material.

Navigation is streamlined. A searchable database allows for browsing content regionally; users can also explore and download resources on different topics through the tag cloud.



Geo-focus

International

Multimedia and media portability

The site has a good collection of multimedia, audio and video content. It has however not yet joined the social networking bandwagon.



Target audience

Policy makers, NGOs and children



Status of update

The content is updated from time to time



Discussion platform

As of now, the site does not feature interactive platforms for user comment and contribution.



Google page rank

7/10



CAN

Promoting Organisation
CAN International

Climate Action Network

www.climateactionnetwork.org



Description

The Climate Action Network, CAN, is a worldwide network of near 500 NGOs working to promote government and individual action to limit human-induced climate change to ecologically sustainable levels. The vision is to protect the atmosphere while allowing for sustainable and equitable development worldwide.

The Network promotes a parallel three track approach to mitigating climate change which includes a Kyoto track, a Greening (de-carbonisation) track, and an Adaptation track.

The CAN International website is the leading gateway to the CAN regional chapters, with all regional websites having their respective priorities and focus.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Ice management, glacier recession, disaster risk reduction, atmospheric brown cloud

Other aspects

Livelihood and community forestry, poverty reduction, rangelands, water management, cryogenic hazards

Thematic emphasis

The CAN website supports the network's goal of information exchange, and the coordinated development of NGO strategy on international, regional, and national climate issues.

Some of the issues that are lent thematic focus are:

- Adaptation
- Mitigation
- Technology finance
- Legal issues related to climate change



Richness and variety of content

The CAN site features a range of resources developed by experts from the network's 500 NGO members to drive international action on climate change. The priority theme is on a healthy environment, and sustainable development as defined by the Brundtland Commission.

The site carries news releases, blog posts, newsletters, global events coverage, and an interesting Fossil of the Day Award section that is a sarcastic take on countries who have performed not very responsibly in climate negotiations. There are also discussion papers and policy positions, letters to governments, and resources for both experts and beginners to help understand the climate debate better.

Usability and interactivity

The CAN International site is a gateway to its regional networks around the world. The regional sites are distinct in their design and features, but all highlight the respective priority areas and feature news, activities, policy work, and resources.

Though not very heavy on content, the CAN website is reasonably organised and allows users to download important policy documents.

Geo-focus



The focus is international with regional chapters for South and West Africa, Australia, Canada, East Europe and Eurasia, Europe, France, Latin America, United States, and South Asia.

Multimedia and media portability



The image gallery, videos and the Eco blog are the interesting features of the CAN site. There is however much scope to enrich the multimedia content further. Some regional chapters have local language portability and social bookmarking features on their sites.

Target audience



Environmentalists, policy makers, civil society, economists working on climate change

Status of update



The content is updated from time to time

Discussion platform



There is not much scope for user comment and contribution on the CAN site, but readers can subscribe to the network newsletter.



Google page rank
7/10



ELDIS

Promoting Organisations
DFID, SIDA, NORAD, SDC

ELDIS

www.eldis.org



HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Community based adaptation, disaster risk reduction, governance and policy, science and technology, energy, forestry, international climate negotiations

Other aspects

Ageing populations, corporate responsibility, finance policy, governance assessments, HIV-AIDS, ICT for development, migration, trafficking in women & children

Description

ELDIS is one of a family of knowledge services from the Institute of Development Studies, Sussex. It is a gateway to global development information on international development issues. One of its prime objectives is to communicate evidence based development knowledge effectively through a range of appropriately designed services, using the Internet as the main communication medium for delivery. It is one of the best global sources for development policy, practice, and research information.

Among its core focus areas is climate change. The ELDIS site provides comprehensive information and an exhaustive resource guide on climate change, in collaboration with the Climate Change and Development Centre and the Institute of Development Studies.

Thematic emphasis

Eldis is a rich site of reference for resources that are of strategic, policy or practical interest for development practitioners based in both the North and South. The site has an exhaustive list of topics across which it spans its thematic focus. Some of them are:

- Agriculture
- Climate change
- Conflict and security
- Education, health & gender
- Globalisation
- ICT for development
- Livelihoods, poverty, and trade policy



Richness and variety of content

Eldis is generously stocked with a variety of content under its thematic areas. These are presented in the form of dossiers, resource guides, publications, and country and regional profiles.

The topics and sections are fairly inter-linked and are supplemented by a vast amount of internal and external resources. The content is highlighted in different sections including *What's New*, *Latest Additions*, *highlights of the week*, events and announcements; each section also links to related external sites.

The site offers a browsing facility for the latest editorially selected content from over 7,500 development organisations, while users on the site can share their work with over 80,000 development practitioners around the globe.

Usability and interactivity

The well-designed architecture and content interlinking over an elegant interface on Eldis offers easy navigation and user-friendliness. Topics on Eldis are organised into Resource Guide and Dossier formats. Articles are adjunct with quick introduction summaries, recommended readings, and related case studies; these along with a searchable library for structured access to documents make Eldis a very resourceful site.

Geo-focus



The focus is international. There are regional profiles for Africa, East Asia and Pacific, Latin America and Caribbean, Middle East and North Africa & South Asia.

Multimedia and media portability



The Eldis site applies the practice of cross-media with a variety of video content, and online and offline discussion forums. It allows RSS and news feed, but is yet to allow social bookmarking and sharing.

Target audience



Development professionals, donor agencies, policy-makers, NGOs, researchers, students, and development-focused web-service providers.

Status of update



The content is updated on a daily basis.

Discussion platform



The Eldis Community is an interactive space for development practitioners to discuss and share useful resources. The users can comment on articles, share their publications and also subscribe to the Eldis mailing list.



Google page rank
7/10



ENN

Promoting Organisation
Environmental News
Network

Environmental News Network

www.enn.com



Description

The Environmental News Network (ENN) is one of the oldest and most unbiased sources of online environmental news on the web. Its objective is to provide a global perspective on environmental issues, and to promote thought, discussion, and awareness among its readers.

Started as an aggregator site for environmental news, ENN has today grown to become a leading web space for resources, teachers, experts and tools that provide objective information and knowledge about the increasingly complex field of environmental science.

ENN's editorial team publishes original content and sourced affiliate news, and gathers and filters articles from a variety of other news streams. It also offers daily feature stories, a press release service, and live chats.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Environmental policy, energy, climate, pollution

Other aspects

Green buildings, science and technology, business, wildlife, agriculture, ecosystems

Thematic emphasis

The ENN editorial mission is to inform, educate, enable and create a platform for global environmental action. In line with this mission, ENN constantly endeavours at providing an international perspective on environmental issues, both present and future. The site looks at different themes like:

- Wildlife and Agriculture
- Ecosystems
- Energy
- Climate and Pollution
- Green Buildings
- Science and Technology



Richness and variety of content

With 15 years of experience in the environmental space, ENN has assembled a remarkable database of content, contacts and understanding of the environment. This is visible in the dynamic look and feel of the site.

The site publishes both original and affiliated content from partners, contributors, freelance & citizen journalists, and research associates worldwide. It offers RSS feeds and distributes a daily e-newsletter to 36,000 environmental leaders.

The extensive content is attractively presented in different interesting formats, including editorials, news articles, spotlights, comments, discussions, publications, tools, and press releases. The archive section holds regular news archives since 2004.

Usability and interactivity

ENN lays out content in a well-managed architecture that makes the navigation simple and easy for the user. The flat menu system enhances the usability of the site.

The content is embellished with Dictionary links for technical terms, and also with a number of cross linkages to related articles. This enriches the reading experience on the site.



Geo-focus

International

Multimedia and media portability

ENN is primarily a text-based site and does not comprise much multimedia content. The articles are however highlighted with interesting images which instantly serve to engage the reader. The content can be shared across all social networking platforms, and users are able to subscribe to the newsletter, RSS and Twitter feeds, and the latest press alerts from ENN.



Target audience

Policy Policy makers, corporate establishments, non-profit organisations, environmental leaders, researchers and general public.



Status of update

The site is updated on a daily basis.

Discussion platform

ENN allows the registered users/paid members to submit press releases and news articles related to the focus thematic issues. Readers can also comment on the ENN community blog postings.



Google page rank

4/10

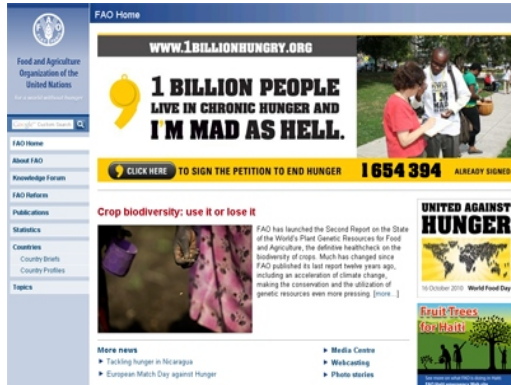


FAO

Promoting Organisation
United Nations

Food and Agriculture Organisation

www.fao.org



Description

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations was founded in 1945 with a mandate to raise levels of nutrition and standards of living, to improve agriculture productivity, and better the condition of rural populations.

In the area of climate change, the Organization contributes by assessing the available scientific evidence, collecting unique global datasets, promoting adaptation and mitigation practices, and by providing a neutral forum for negotiations and technical discussions on climate change and agriculture.

Its web portal on climate change highlights FAO's integrated approach to Climate Risk Management (CRM) and provides overview of their work, with updates on events, insights on international programmes, and field projects.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Mitigation and adaptation, data collection and dissemination, emissions reduction, promoting climate resilient agriculture, REDD

Other aspects

Food security and food safety, water, MDGs, biodiversity, bioenergy

Thematic emphasis

Within its broader focus on ending world poverty and hunger, the FAO website stresses on addressing climate change at an urgent level. The website's thematic approach is divided in the following broad categories, that delve on policy to action level measures:

- Climate impact on agriculture
- Food security
- Adaptation and mitigation
- Climate action
- Tools and methods
- Movements
- Global forum on climate change



Richness and variety of content

The FAO website is dynamic in its approach with a major focus towards changing policy level actions, and interventions on climate change, hunger and poverty worldwide.

There is up-to-date news from across the world, and particularly focusing on vulnerable regions and the MDGs of hunger, poverty and environment sustainability. Featured documents and reports offer well-researched understanding on climate change and related aspects.

The website also features latest events from FAO and UNFCCC, and data, tools, and methods for further assistance. An external link to FAO water page brings in the water-related aspect into prominence. Another attractive feature is the map which is connected to other major climate change websites externally.

Usability and interactivity

Even when heavy on content, the FAO site is well-laid out in specific categories. This makes navigating between the pages streamlined and easy for the user.

Geo-focus



The focus is spread across Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Near East.

Multimedia and media portability

The FAO website has a dynamic multi-media section, with a pool of interactive tools like Video-CD-ROM, Audio, Webcasts, maps and image galleries, and newsletters. The site allows RSS feed and can be followed on Twitter and other social networking sites. Language portability is between English and French.



Target audience



Global institutions, policy makers, NGOs, researchers and students.

Status of update



The content is updated on a daily basis.

Discussion platform

The FAO website has limited scope for content contribution and comments by users; readers can however follow FAO on its blog and share relevant pages from the site with others through e-mail.



Google page rank
9/10



Greenpeace India

Promoting Organisation
Greenpeace

Greenpeace India

www.greenpeace.org



Description

Greenpeace is a non-profit organisation, with international presence across Europe, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific. As a global organisation, Greenpeace focuses on the most critical environmental issues worldwide, with climate change being one of their major focus areas. They use direct-action campaigns to support their cause, and have grown to include lobbying and research also over the past years.

Greenpeace has a dynamic, youth-focused website which is rich in campaign news, blogs, resources and publications; it has some very powerful videos and images. There are also fun and games that serve as 'infotaining' tools.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Fossil fuel phase out, promotion of renewable energies

Other aspects

Elimination of toxic chemicals, Positive energy, marine biodiversity conservation, Sustainable agriculture, prevention of GMO introduction

Thematic emphasis

The overarching theme, around which the Greenpeace website is centered, is the need for a clean and safe environment. Within this, the focus is on some the most pressing environmental concerns around the world, such as:

- Oceans and ancient forests protection
- Fossil fuel phase out
- Promotion of renewable energies
- Nuclear disarmament and decontamination
- Elimination of toxic chemicals
- Prevention of GMOs



Richness and variety of content

The Greenpeace website is colourful, dynamic and interactive, and can instantly engage the reader in different ways. There is a strong 'call to campaign for young people' that is embedded in the website's communication.

The website has a huge variety and volume of content with thematic focus at both regional and global levels. There is the latest news, reports and publications, blogs, slideshows, audio and videos, and even a fun and games section. They demonstrate well the website's effort to inform and educate readers on environment issues in an entertaining manner. There is also a fair amount of cross linkages between the content; this is supplemented by information resources, both internal and external.

Usability and interactivity

The Greenpeace website has neatly categorized content that make navigation easy for the user. There is a lot of content that can be downloaded, shared, printed and subscribed to.



Geo-focus

The website has an international focus, with specific country pages.

Multimedia and media portability

The Greenpeace website is well-populated with multimedia content like photos, videos, audio and slideshows. These contribute as online campaign tools, and are engaging as well as provocative.

The site allows RSS feed and has an active presence across social networking sites. The website also has worldwide country pages in local languages, and addresses thematic issues.



Target audience

"Ordinary people"



Status of update

The content is updated on a daily basis.



Discussion platform

The interactive features offer multiple avenues through which a user can get associated with the various Greenpeace campaigns.

The Fun and Games section serve to instantly engage younger audience.



Google page rank

8/10



ICP

Promoting Organisation
Centre for Social Markets

India Climate Portal

www.climatechallengeindia.org



Description

Climate Challenge India or India Climate Portal is the country's first dedicated site on climate change promoted by the Centre for Social Markets. It seeks to build a strong, pro-active domestic agenda that will reduce the country's climate risk, while seizing opportunities for sustainable and equitable growth.

The objective is to inform, connect and mobilize climate change action at individual levels.

In December 2007, Climate Challenge India was hailed as one of the world's top five climate campaigns, and profiled at the UN Climate Summit in Bali, Indonesia. Serving as the gateway to climate news and action, the India Climate Portal presents a variety of resources for reading and reference of users.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Adaptation, carbon markets, climate science, energy, mitigation, sustainable development, technology

Other aspects

Business and industry, economy, trade, transport, health, gender, poverty cryogenic hazards

Thematic emphasis

Developed as a public resource, the India Climate Portal is designed as a one-stop-shop on climate change and India issues. This is as an effort to spur action at every individual's level to address the escalating climate challenges. The portal spans its focus on:

- Energy
- Carbon markets
- Stake holder collaboration on adaptation and mitigation



Richness and variety of content

The India Climate Portal is an information hub and gateway to action for members of the Climate Challenge India community.

The portal seeks to raise awareness, promote information exchange, and foster networking and partnership in the search for climate change solutions.

The portal brings daily news, views, action and resources with in-depth coverage on recent climate issues. These are supplemented by topical publications, discussion papers, videos, blogs and podcasts.

The homepage highlights the climate tip of the day, events calendar, policy highlights and the climate debates in the Indian Parliament.

Usability and interactivity

The India Climate Portal offers easy navigability and an efficient search mechanism. The chronologically presented policy briefs, updates and critiques of India's climate-change related policies and positions, keeps the reader abreast of latest developments in the arena.



Geo-focus

India

Multimedia and media portability

The India Climate Portal has some amount of multi-media items, which are well integrated with its content. It can be shared and bookmarked across most social networking platforms; the portal especially highlights its presence on



Target audience



Members of the 'Climate Challenge India' Platform, Environmentalists, Policy Makers, and Climate experts

Status of update



The content is updated on a regular basis

Discussion platform

The events calendar on the India Climate Portal allows users to add their events. Users can submit their resources for publication on the portal, and can also buy publications online from the site.



Google page rank

7/10

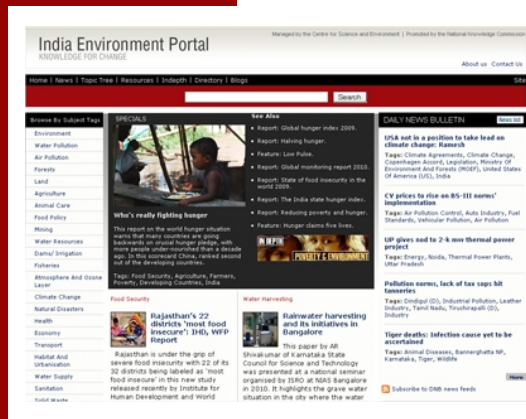


IEP

Promoting Organisation
National Knowledge
Commission

India Environmental Portal

www.indiaenvironmentportal.org



Description

The India Environment Portal is managed by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) and promoted by the National Knowledge Commission (NKC), Government of India. This is as part of NKC's mandate to support the creation of 'knowledge portals' that aggregate and present useful data, information and research across key sectors.

The India Environment Portal puts together a one-stop shop of all that one may want to know about environmental and developmental issues. In its first phase the portal has made available the proprietary resources from CSE, which include archives of their fortnightly magazine, Down To Earth. This apart, Government documents have also been carefully sourced and put out for access by the public.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Adaptation, agreements, climate economics, mitigation, climate science, emissions trading, natural disasters

Other aspects

Land, agriculture, animal care, food policy, mining, dams /irrigation, health, economy, transport, habitat and urbanisation, sanitation, pesticides and toxins, energy, poverty, industry cryogenic hazards

Thematic emphasis

The India Environment Portal (IEP) posits itself as a people's portal that is working to promote knowledge networking for change. With this mandate, it collates and exchanges data, research and information on environment and development from people working in the field, in campaigns, scientific institutions, research, and industry.

The core thematic areas covered by the site are:

- Environment
- Agriculture
- Climate Change
- Energy
- Poverty
- Science & Technology



Richness and variety of content

The India Environment Portal is a rich resource for the serious researcher working on environmental and policy issues in India.

It presents detailed overviews on critical issues, and updates on latest developments, policies and resources. Its content is listed under an exhaustive index of topics from varied sources, including the Government and international agencies.

Resources include articles, opinions, reports and documents, data and statistics, and books. There is also a *daily bulletin* that compiles environment news from mainstream publications across the country.

The portal also features an *In-Depth* section, with backgrounders, analysis and other references on specific subjects, such as climate change, mining, forests, water management, and environmental-impact assessment, among others.

Usability and interactivity

The IEP site is extremely text heavy. But at the same time it is also very well organized, which helps navigability. The key strength of the portal is its use of a unique thesaurus of environmental and geographic terms, which makes the search for resources more accurate, relevant and contextual.



Geo-focus

India

Multimedia and media portability

The India Environment Portal does not have much multimedia content. This tends to give a serious and monotonous look to the site.



The site can be shared and bookmarked on Digg, Newsvine, Facebook, and Twitter. It also allows RSS Feed.

Target audience

Regional member countries of the Hindu Kush-Himalayas, civil society, researchers and policy makers



Status of update

The content is updated on a daily basis



Discussion platform

On the interactivity index, the IEP site scores low with only limited scope for user comment, contribution and discussions.

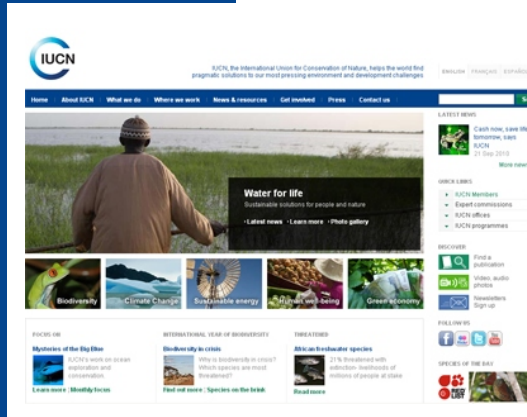


Google page rank

6/10



International Union for Conservation of Nature



HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Ecosystem-based adaptation
REDD, UNFCCC

Other aspects

Biodiversity, sustainable energy,
human well-being, green economy,
bio-fuels, hydropower, renewable
energy, oil and gas, markets and
conservation finance

Description

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is the world's oldest and largest global environmental network. It serves as a neutral forum for stakeholders worldwide to find pragmatic solutions to conservation and development challenges.

IUCN supports scientific research, manages field projects, and brings Governments, NGOs, United Nations agencies, companies and local communities together to develop and implement policy, laws and best practice.

The IUCN website is rich in content and contains publications, news, conservation action tools, statutory and corporate documents, M & E reports, along with a dynamic multimedia section with videos, audio and photos featuring field projects, key conservation events, interviews with experts and much more.

Thematic emphasis

IUCN's website highlights the network's efforts to develop and support cutting-edge conservation science, particularly on biodiversity and ecosystems, and how these link to human wellbeing.

The focus is on nature conservation, with thematic emphasis on the priority work areas:

- Biodiversity
- Climate change
- Sustainable energy
- Human well-being
- Green economy



Richness and variety of content

The IUCN website is a valuable resource for conservation enthusiasts and presents them with ample material for rich reading and reference.

The vast volume of content has been managed categorically on a well designed interface, which gives the site a simple and tidy look.

It comprehensively profiles the priority work areas, programmes and initiatives of IUCN. Each theme is driven on three key areas – knowledge, action and policy influence - and is presented in different formats including news, success stories, diary logs, resources, and quiz.

There are extensive amounts of referential material in news, publications, conservation tools, podcasts, technical documents and multimedia, which serve to engage the serious reader.

Usability and interactivity

The elegant site design and interface, multi-language option and systematic categorization of the content and focus areas make the IUCN site fairly user-friendly.

The menu is well laid out in each page, which eases navigation and usability, and also drives users to explore other sections of the site.

Geo-focus



The geo-focus is international. The Asia segment highlights country-wise sections including India.

Multimedia and media portability



The IUCN site has an assortment of multimedia content with audio features, slideshows, videos and podcasts.

It allows social bookmarking, RSS feeds and page-sharing via e-mail.

Target audience



Students, researchers, scientists, NGOs, civil societies, inter-governmental and government officials.



Status of update

Updated on a regular basis

Discussion platform



There is a quiz section, and subscription and membership options, but not many options for user comment and content contribution.



Google page rank
8/10



MoEF

Promoting Organisation
Ministry of Environment
and Forests

Ministry of Environment and Forests

www.moef.nic.in



Description

The Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF) is the nodal agency in the administrative structure of the Government of India for planning, promoting, coordinating and overseeing the implementation of environmental and forestry policies and programmes of the country.

The website serves as MoEF's online governance and communication platform, and covers the entire gamut of the Ministry's wide ranging work, highlighting public information, legal provisions, policy documents, guidelines, and much more.

The rich content of the website gives a clear view of the developments taking place in the national arena in the field of environment and climate change.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Clean technology, clean development mechanism, national and state plans for climate change in India, climate change cooperation, India's position on climate change issues

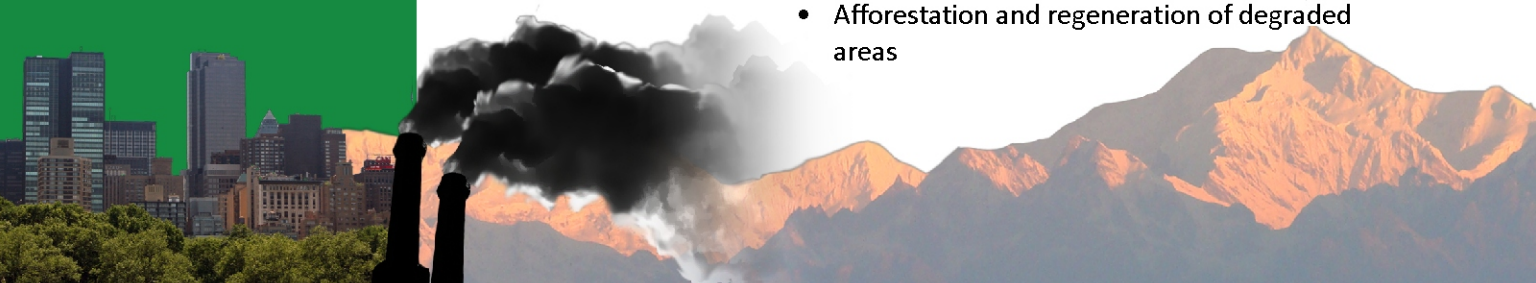
Other aspects

Project elephant, project tiger, river and forest conservation and policy, trade and environment, hazardous substances management

Thematic emphasis

The MoEF website profiles the activities, programmes, guidelines, announcements and other governance related information of the Ministry. These are essentially categorised under the following themes:

- Environment conservation and survey of flora, fauna, forests and wildlife
- Climate change
- Prevention and control of pollution
- Animal welfare
- Afforestation and regeneration of degraded areas



Richness and variety of content

The website serves as the online spokesperson for the Ministry of Environment & Forests, and informs the public about the various developments, programmes and initiatives of the Ministry.

This is an extremely well-populated website, the huge amount of content evident in its homepage brimming with activity.

Topical and current, the content details out India's governance policies and perspectives on environment and climate change. There is news, announcements, statutory documents, policy guidelines, public information, rules, orders, notifications, reports, manuals, presentations, legislative briefs, and much more.

The huge volume of resources makes this an important site of reference for policy makers, Government functionaries, NGOs, activists and legal bodies.

Usability and interactivity

Even when heavily packed with content, the MoEF website is well-organised into categories, which ensures that the site is user friendly and the content is navigable smoothly across sections and pages.



Geo-focus

India

Multimedia and media portability

The MoEF site hosts a number of videos, which are mostly coverage of conferences, seminars and documentaries. There is also an attractive photo gallery. Language portability is between English and Hindi. The site is however yet to allow social bookmarking.



Target audience

All Indian citizens - policy makers, environmentalists, activists, private sector organisations, and Government functionaries



Status of update

The content is updated on a daily basis



Discussion platform

The site presents an option for users to contribute their nature and wildlife photographs. A citizen-friendly feature is a feedback form on the site that allows users to post their comments, suggestions and questions directly to the Minister.



Google page rank

7/10



NAVDANYA

Promoting Organisation
Navdanya

NAVDANYA

www.navdanya.org



Description

Navdanya is a network of seed keepers and organic producers spread across 16 states in India. It is a movement based on nonviolent farming to support local farmers, protect the biodiversity of the Earth and conserve endangered crops and plants.

Navdanya is actively involved in the rejuvenation of indigenous knowledge and culture, creating awareness on the hazards of genetic engineering, and defending people's knowledge from bio-piracy and food rights in the face of globalisation. Navdanya's work on climate change shows that efforts that mitigate climate change not only contribute to adaptation but also contribute to climate and ecological justice.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Change and biodiversity, climate change and agriculture, and climate change in the himalaya.

Other aspects

Seed, food and land sovereignty, water democracy, eco-feminism, grandmother's university, organic production and certification, fair trade

Thematic emphasis

The key thematic focus of the Navdanya website is on conservation of biodiversity, protection of small farmers, and promotion of safe food through ecological farming, and fair and organic trade. The prominent themes highlighted are:

- Earth democracy
- Climate change
- Women for diversity
- Organic movements
- The Earth University



Richness and variety of content

The Navdanya website is simple and minimalistic in its look and feel. The content is presented in an organised layout, though the site is not very content heavy. The site profiles the Navdanya campaigns for seed and food sovereignty, organic agriculture movements, and women and diversity programmes.

News, events and Twitter post feeds are tagged to every page. A prominent facebook icon suggests an effort to promote greater youth engagement in, and awareness of the movement. There are listings for events, publications, FAQs and interesting courses at the Bija Vidyapeeth. The website also features an interesting blog.

Usability and interactivity

The usability quotient of the Navdanya website is enhanced by its simple menu-based navigation system. The site is not very heavy on content and variety; therefore its streamlined layout makes it an easy read portal.



Geo-focus

India

Multimedia and media portability

There is much scope to add multimedia content – like videos, audios and images - to the Navdanya website. A youth centric focus is visible in the site's prominent cross linkage with social networking platforms like Facebook and Twitter.



Target audience



Members of seed networks, farmers, organic producers, donors, NGOs and students



Status of update

The content is updated periodically

Discussion platform



The website allows for subscription to its mailing list. This apart, the site does not feature interactive components for user contribution and comment.



Google page rank

6/10



oneclimate.net

Promoting Organisation
OneWorld UK

oneclimate.net

www.oneclimate.net



Description

OneClimate is a news, social activism and social networking site devoted to the subject of climate change. An initiative of the non-profit OneWorld UK, this is a platform that aims to connect people to people, and people to information.

The site offers an interactive networking space and a series of innovative tools for users to share their experiences, knowledge, insights, questions and answers about climate change, and also connect with like-minded people, working on similar issues around the world.

HIGHLIGHT

Mobilising people power
on climate change

Thematic emphasis

The broad thematic emphasis of the *OneClimate* website is highlighted by its tagline “one world, one climate, one chance”.

The overarching issue is the climate and its protection in very many ways.

The website positions itself as an action hub on climate change and facilitates a wide variety of content to be exchanged on a gamut of issues related to climate challenges.



Richness and variety of content

On the lines of social networking websites, OneClimate exudes a vibrant and youthful look. The user driven content and interactivity aspect is prominent in the website.

There is much multimedia content, especially videos, so the site is heavy. Since OneClimate is populated to a large extent by contributions from users, it has much diversity in its content. There is news, articles, blogs, videos, and online campaigns – all submitted by users. There are also linkages with external sites like the OneWorld group of sites.

Through the Community Exchange section, the site allows users to share details about their projects on climate change, and interact with others who are doing similar work. The site includes community groups doing some excellent work on energy, transport, waste, food and more.

Usability and interactivity

The content on *OneClimate* is well managed and allows to be used in different ways. Users can create their personal eco-profiles, search for relevant contacts and resources using an interactive map, and can interact with each other through emails and tweets.



Geo-focus

International

Multimedia and media portability

The site has a number of multimedia features including an interactive map and live video streaming. It is also fairly updated on social networking. However it is yet to allow subscription options to feeds.



Target audience



Climate activists, students, professionals, policy makers, civil society

Status of update



The content is updated on a daily basis

Discussion platform

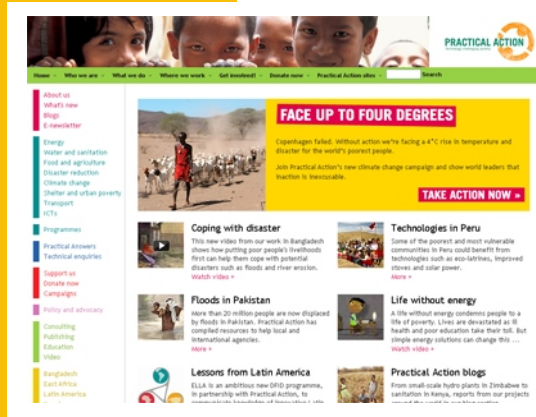
The *OneClimate* site leverages maximum interactive features to engage users at all levels to share thoughts, ask questions, sign petitions, post videos and images, and chat live.



Google page rank

6/10





Description

Practical Action is a development charity committed to poverty reduction, environmental conservation and technology choice. It works closely with some of the world's poorest people to develop appropriate technologies - in food production, agro-processing, energy, transport, water and sanitation, shelter, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction - to fight poverty and transform their lives for the better. Its work encompasses campaigning and policy advocacy, providing technical information, educational and consultancy services, and publishing activities.

The website demonstrates Practical Action's innovative projects on simplified use of technology in different parts of the world through videos, along with guidance reports, case studies and technical briefs.

Thematic emphasis

The core focus of the website is how technology can be used to challenge poverty and bring about a better world. It guides the reader through the gamut of work being done by Practical Action on the following key technology areas:

- Energy
- Water and sanitation
- Food and agriculture
- Disaster reduction
- Climate change
- Shelter and urban poverty
- Transport
- ICTs

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Climate change and poverty, climate change and the mdgs, adaptation, river erosion, floating gardens, rainwater harvesting

Other aspects

Air pollution, micro-hydro and solar power, electrification, regional disaster preparedness, farming techniques, irrigation, access to sanitation, transport, radio and podcasting production and certification, fair trade



Richness and variety of content

This is an attractively laid out website that not only highlights Practical Action's work areas, but also shares practical, usable and interesting livelihood solutions for readers from the developing world. The site focuses on programmes in the 8 core technology areas and highlights the successes of simple technologies around the world. There are people stories, case studies, videos, and radio stories – all inter and cross linked - which enrich the content substantively.

The site carries news, event listings and blogs, and is a well-stocked reservoir of climate-based articles, reports, and discussion papers. The Get Involved section informs readers of many ways they can contribute to local causes. The main site further links to some interesting sub-sites on education, consulting, online bookshop, technical information, and practical presents.

Usability and interactivity

Practical Action has a fairly content heavy website with much variety also in the kind of content. The sections are well organised, though the site may need some getting used to owing to the sheer volume of information and the inter-linkages within.

Geo-focus

The focus is on four regions of the developing world Latin America, East Africa, Southern Africa and South Asia, with particular concentration on Peru, Kenya, Sudan, Zimbabwe, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal.



Multimedia and media portability

The Practical Action site is rich in multi-media content, particularly videos. It has image galleries and a Google map and is updated on bookmarking and sharing across all social networking channels. The site has an international version, a UK version and a Spanish version for Latin America.



Target audience

Grassroots development workers, Community-based organisations, NGOs, Other development agencies



Status of update

The content is regularly updated



Discussion platform

Users can sign up for newsletters, post technical enquiries and buy books and presents from the Practical Action sub-sites.



Google page rank
6/10



Regional Community Forestry Training Centre for Asia and the Pacific

www.recoftc.org



Description

RECOFTC is an international not-for-profit organization that specializes in capacity building for community forestry and devolved forest management throughout the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

With over 20 years of international experience and a dynamic approach to capacity building - involving research and analysis, demonstration sites, and training products - RECOFTC delivers innovative solutions for people and forests.

The website informs about the various activities and programmes of the organisation, and presents the latest news, events, analysis and more from the world of community forestry and natural resource management.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Mitigation, adaptation, REDD

Other aspects

People's rights, access to resources, forest conflict management, natural resource management, capacity building trade

Thematic emphasis

Good governance, community rights, and equitable benefit sharing are overarching themes shaping all of RECOFTC's work towards sustainable forest management. Within these broad themes, RECOFTC focuses on three topics that are to shape rural livelihoods and forest management over the coming years:

- People, forests, and climate change
- Markets
- Natural resource conflicts



Richness and variety of content

RECOFTC's key lesson learned from over two decades of work is that strong capacities are crucial for success in community forest management. This concept, which forms the basis of RECOFTC's strategic and programme plans, is communicated prominently on its website.

The site hones its focus to the Asia Pacific region, and details out the various programmes and thematic issues on which RECOFTC engages with local communities in the region towards sustainable forest management and REDD.

There is news, features, publications, newsletters, video, and event listings. The site also links to training manuals and resources for Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) trainers and facilitators in South-East Asia.

Usability and interactivity

The RECOFTC site has structured its content well over its thematic areas to enable ease of navigation. The categorisation is streamlined, and allows for downloading of a number of research and analysis papers, workshop and conference reports, training manuals, case studies, and policy briefs from the site.

Geo-focus



RECOFTC has an Asia Pacific focus, with particular emphasis on Thailand, Indonesia and Cambodia

Multimedia and media portability

Video is one of the formats in which thematic content is presented on the RECOFTC website. A vast number of video links are presented here, along with synopses of the videos. The site is yet to join the social networking movement, but its blog section allows for RSS feeds.



Target audience



Governments, NGOs, civil society, private sector, local people, and research and educational institutes



Status of update

The content is updated regularly

Discussion platform

There is limited scope for user interaction on the RECOFTC website; user comment is allowed on the blog section only, users can buy publications online, subscribe to the e-newsletter, and post questions and feedback through e-mail.



Google page rank

6/10



SANDEE

Promoting Organisation
SANDEE

South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics

www.sandeeonline.org



Description

The South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE) is a regional network that uses economic tools and analyses to address South Asia's environmental challenges. Its main goal is to build the professional skills required to enable South Asians to address local and global environmental concerns.

SANDEE works in seven countries - Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Its website profiles SANDEE's extensive research work and publications that have been a result of the coming together of South Asian researchers and institutes, interested in the inter-connections among development, poverty and the environment. The site is a valuable resource of papers, presentations and journals on economics, and provides links to networks working on environmental economics around the world.

HIGHLIGHT

Economics, environment
and development

Thematic emphasis

The thematic approach that Sandee follows is aimed at meeting research needs on the theme of environment and development through economic analysis. The website focuses on:

- Research on Economics
- Training tools for teachers
- Networks on Environmental Economics Worldwide



Richness and variety of content

Based on the premise that solutions to economic development concerns and environmental problems are interlinked, SANDEE aims to enrich South Asian researchers and institutes working on development, poverty and the environment.

For policy makers the site is a high-end product and offers a comprehensive perspective on different economics themes in various regions in South Asia.

It provides a basket of products including the latest news, publications and events, and research materials like policy briefs, annual reports, working papers, and books. It is linked well with appropriate sites that supplement its purpose. A newsletter and picture-gallery are some of the other features of this website.

Usability and interactivity

The Sandee website is simplistic in its design. The content is categorised in a streamlined manner which helps the user to navigate across the pages with ease. For teachers especially, the site has useful references to a wide range of practical tools that are handy in research or teaching of environmental economics.



Geo-focus

The focus is South Asia

Multimedia and media portability

The look and feel of the Sandee website is very academic. It does not have much of multi-media content; there is scope to add social bookmarking and content feedback features on the site.



Target audience



Researchers, policymakers, environmental economists, students, teachers

Status of update



The content is updated from time to time only

Discussion platform

A membership feature and Blog aids the visitor to connect, and collaborate with key experts, and to get information about funding availability and guidelines for research and training. However there is not much scope for user comment and contribution to content.



Google page rank
6/10



SACEP

Promoting Organisation
SACEP

South Asian Cooperative Environment Programme

www.sacep.org



Description

South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) is an inter-governmental organization, established in 1982 by the governments of South Asia to promote and support protection, management and enhancement of the environment in the region.

SACEP member countries are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

The website provides a regional overview of the environmental issues in South Asia and highlights SACEP's work in the region in the areas of environment education, environment legislation, biodiversity, air pollution, and the protection and management of the coastal environment.

Thematic emphasis

The thematic emphasis of the SACEP website takes from the mission of the programme to promote South Asian co-operation for environmental conservation, and highlights SACEP's collaborative projects with regional organisations and Governments towards this end. There is focus on the:

- South Asian Seas Programme
- South Asia Environment and Natural Resources Information Centre
- South Asia Coral Reef Task Force
- South Asia Biodiversity Clearing House Mechanism

HIGHLIGHTS

Land degradation & desertification, loss of biodiversity, fresh water depletion & degradation, environmental health, degradation and depletion of coastal and marine resources, natural disasters



Richness and variety of content

The website primarily serves as an online spokesperson for SACEP, highlighting its support to inter-Governmental efforts to protect and manage the environment in South Asia.

The site informs on projects, news, publications and updates related to SACEP and its member countries. These include newsletters, reports, declarations, and action plans on the current, future and completed SACEP projects.

The site gives relevant information about member nations such as population and development trends, status in water, energy, environment and major environmental treaties, problems, etc. which can be useful reference for readers.

Usability and interactivity

The SACEP website is not very heavy on content. There are only limited cross and external linkages of the content. But readers can subscribe to the SACEP newsletter, and also download selected publications from the site.

Geo-focus



The focus is South Asia covering Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Multimedia and media portability



The website has only limited multimedia and audio-visual content. However there are some very good images supplementing the text in many places. The site is yet to join the social networking movement.

Target audience



South Asian member country Governments, communities, NGOs, and regional and multilateral institutions

Status of update



The content is updated regularly

Discussion platform



The SACEP website has limited scope to allow interaction with readers in terms of content contribution and comment.



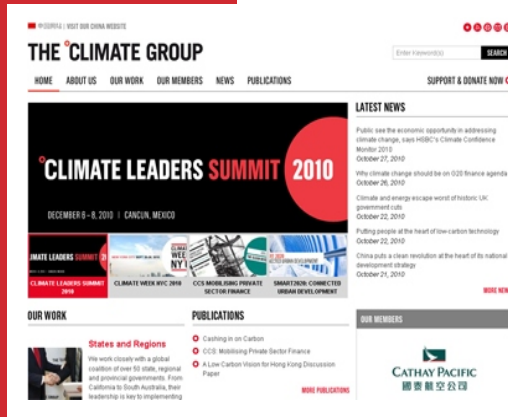
Google page rank
6/10



The Climate Group
Promoting Organisation
The Climate Group

The Climate Group

www.theclimategroup.org



Description

The °Climate Group's goal is to act as a catalyst to help state and regional governments and businesses reduce emissions and set the world economy on the path to a low-carbon, and prosperous future.

To reach this goal, the °Climate Group has created a coalition of governments and the world's most influential businesses, to help set the targets, create the policies, build confidence, and generate the political willpower to make the changes the world requires, by 2050.

The website has a lot of reports, case studies and multi-media content that highlight the °Climate Group's work in innovating technologies and creating partnerships globally towards cleaner development and climate action.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Carbon Capture and Storage, The Climate Principles, HSBC Climate Partnership, Climate Policy

Other aspects

States and Regional policy, Electric Vehicles, ICTs, LEDs and Smart Controls, Brands and Consumers, City Partnerships, Greenhouse Indicator

Thematic emphasis

Within the ambit of working internationally to accelerate a low carbon economy, the Climate Group's website lays thematic emphasis on:

- Corporate engagement in climate issues
- Investment in clean technology
- Tackling low carbon risk



Richness and variety of content

At the very first glance, the Climate Group website comes across as a vibrant and new-age portal oriented towards innovating technology.

The site highlights the work of the organisation in Policy, Technology and Special Projects globally. It has well updated sections on news, events, blogs and interviews, and a chronicled list of publications and reports.

The Climate Group Members (Governments and Corporate) also find prominent mention on the site.

The pages are attractively laid out for each topic with neat sub-sections on related content, like case studies, FAQ-lists, slide shows, Delicious and Twitter posts, etc.

Usability and interactivity

The content on The Climate Group website is streamlined and navigation is easy. Popular tags and the latest updates in different contents are displayed right on the homepage which make it easy for the reader to get an instant update on what's new and happening.

Geo-focus



The focus is international with spotlights on India and China in Asia

Multimedia and media portability

The Climate Group site is not very heavy on multimedia content, though it has some very good slideshows and videos. The site is very well networked socially on all the bookmarking sites, and allows RSS feed as well. It also has a Chinese version.



Target audience



Researchers, practitioners, Governments, business establishments, civil society and policy makers

Status of update



The content is updated on a daily basis

Discussion platform



The Climate Group website scores high on interactivity index with comment forms for readers attached to news, blogs, events and interviews.



Google page rank
7/10



TCPI

Promoting Organisation
The Climate Project

The Climate Project India

www.climateprojectindia.org



Description

The Climate Project India is the Indian chapter of the international, volunteer-driven non-profit - The Climate Project - working to spread awareness on the impacts and solutions to climate change.

The Indian chapter aims to mobilise the country on the critical urgency of action around climate change, and in taking a lead role to solve this crisis.

It's uniquely designed website presents as an interactive space to share solutions, opinions and green tips, learn about climate science, and follow news and events from around the world.

Thematic emphasis

The key focus of The Climate Project India (TCPI) is to inspire concerned individuals on the impacts and solutions to climate change by presenting relevant information and knowledge in an interactive manner. Some of the aspects looked at are:

- Climate conscious lifestyles
- Energy
- Green transport
- Green jobs

HIGHLIGHT

Climate change - impacts
and solutions



Richness and variety of content

The content on The Climate Project India website chiefly focuses on increasing awareness about, and finding solutions to combat climate change. It has a fairly interactive look and feel, and comes across as a largely youth-oriented online space. The content is spread over in the form of news, resources, publications, reports, videos, and presentations. The Solutions page is an interesting section that presents an interactive guide to how common people can change their lifestyle, energy and transport options to less carbon intensive and more climate-friendly.

Usability and interactivity

The unique visual-interface design approach of the TCPI site allows the user to access the needed content and web-pages with minimum clicks. The flash-based visuals give an elegant look to the site, but sometimes take time to load. The site is not very heavy on content; but it supplements its content well with external links to further reading and resources. There are also presentations which can be accessed by registered users on the site.



Geo-focus

India

Multimedia and media portability

Even though the TCPI site is presented with a multimedia look, the content is mostly text based. There are however a number of videos relating to the thematic topics on the site. The site is yet to allow social bookmarking or subscription to feeds.



Target audience

Students, researchers, activists, NGOs



Status of update

The content is updated from time to time

Discussion platform

The TCPI site offers an interactive space on its “Green Forum” where users can create their personal profiles, download resources and voice their opinions on climate issues.



Google page rank
6/10



TERI

Promoting Organisation
TERI

The Energy and Resources Institute

Description

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) was initially set up to work towards tackling acute problems of humankind that would arise due to energy depletion and pollution. Today the Institute has developed a wider interpretation of this core purpose and its application, and has created an environment that is enabling, dynamic and inspiring for the development of solutions to global problems in the fields of energy, environment and current patterns of development.

The Institute works to identify and articulate intellectual challenges, straddling a number of knowledge disciplines, and mounting research, training and demonstration projects to help develop technologies that will carry benefits to society at large. The TERI website highlights the Institute's work on global sustainable development issues, and its extensive research and working experience on an array of projects through thematic interactive interfaces.

Thematic emphasis

The TERI website underlines the overarching theme of sustainable development, under which the focus is on energy competency.

Some of the spotlight areas within this include:

- Energy solutions
- Earth sciences
- Sustainable habitats
- Technology dissemination
- Environment education

www.teriin.org



HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Vulnerability, impacts, and adaptation, policy analysis, clean development mechanism, climate modeling

Other aspects

Agriculture, forestry and biodiversity, industry, information and communication technology nanotechnology, natural resources rural development, sustainable habitat, trade and transport biotechnology and bio-resources energy solutions



Richness and variety of content

TERI's working experience and expertise in its thematic areas is well-reflected through the content on its website.

There is a huge volume of material categorised under numerous heads, which include articles, case studies, publications, research papers, information briefs, and more.

Readers can check out the highlighted sections on climate change, solar energy, green buildings and technologies; read about TERI's projects; buy books online; they can also watch videos and listen to audio programmes on the TERI Channel.

The site has a significant section for youth readers where they can connect, interact, and share on environmental issues.

Usability and interactivity

The content on the TERI website is organized categorically in a well-structured menu that makes it easy for the users to navigate around. The website also highlights the Institute's work from time to time through a thematic interactive interface. It also has a robust search functionality that allows precise search on a particular project or topic.

Geo-focus



The primary focus of the website is India, though it also pans its focus internationally.

Multimedia and media portability



There is a huge amount of multimedia content on the TERI website which includes an assortment of audio, videos, e-magazines and webcasts. The site however scores low on social bookmarking and media portability.

Target audience



Researchers, policy makers, NGOs, Government functionaries, industrialists, and students

Status of update



The content is updated on a daily basis

Discussion platform



The interactive features on the TERI website are mostly focused on youth audience, especially school and college students. There are blogs, quizzes, opinion polls, messages and ideas boards, etc.



Google page rank
7/10



IPCC

Promoting Organisations
UNEP, WMO

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

www.ipcc.ch



Description

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is the leading scientific body for the assessment of climate change, established by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

Its mandate is to provide the world with a clear and balanced scientific view on the current state of climate change and its potential environmental and socio-economic consequences.

The IPCC site acts as the online platform for this intergovernmental panel to present its reviews and assessments of the scientific, technical and socio-economic information produced worldwide that is relevant to the understanding of climate change. It contains assessment and methodology reports, and technical papers, and also has information about the various IPCC events.

Thematic emphasis

The main site presents an overview of the IPCC and its work, progress, updates, and publications. More exhaustive information on its different themes is presented through its sub-sites, classified according to its working groups based on:

- Physical science
- Climate change impacts, adaptation and vulnerability
- Mitigation of climate change
- Task force on National greenhouse gas inventories

HIGHLIGHT

Scientific assessment of the current state of climate change and its potential environmental and socio-economic consequences.



Richness and variety of content

The IPCC website categorises its content under its working groups; each group presents extensively researched content in the form of news, publications, reports, presentations, etc.

The site describes the physical-scientific aspects of the climate system, and climate change cause, attribution and assessment by global experts. The main topics include: assessing changes in GHGs, environmental temperatures, rainfall, and ocean and sea levels; historical and paleo-climatic perspectives on climate change; bio-geo-chemistry, carbon cycle, satellite data, climate models and projections.

Official statements and speeches by IPCC Chair and officials at major UN and other meetings can be accessed here in chronological order.

Usability and interactivity

The IPCC site is well structured and provides easy access to all the sections even when it is fairly heavy on content. With the huge amount of resources available for access by readers, the site is inevitably an important source of reference for researchers worldwide.

However the external linking to the content of the many working groups, sometimes affects the ease of navigability of the site.



Geo-focus

International

Multimedia and media portability

The IPCC site is fairly text heavy, though there is great potential for content to be presented in a variety of multimedia formats on the site. The site is yet to allow subscription to feeds and social bookmarking. It has an efficient search mechanism and the multi-lingual portability of the content scores positive for the site.



Target audience



International climate experts, policy makers, researchers, scientists, Governments, NGOs



Status of update

The content is updated daily basis

Discussion platform



On the interactivity index the site would be ranked low, as it does not offer any scope for content contribution and comment by readers.



Google page rank

8/10

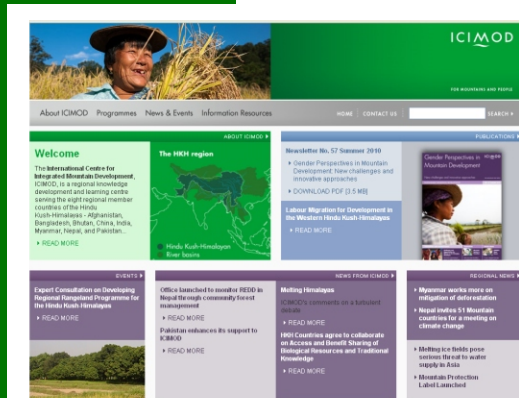


ICIMOD

Promoting Organisation
ICIMOD

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development

www.icimod.org



Description

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, ICIMOD, is a regional knowledge development and learning centre serving the eight regional member countries of the Hindu Kush-Himalayas - Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan.

ICIMOD aims to assist mountain people to understand the changes brought about by globalisation and climate change, adapt to them, and make the most of new opportunities, while addressing upstream-downstream issues.

The site informs on the specific themes within ICIMOD's field of activities; it shares resources on a multitude of topics relevant to mountain development, and regional and individual country data for the Hindu Kush-Himalayas.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Ice management, glacier recession, disaster risk reduction

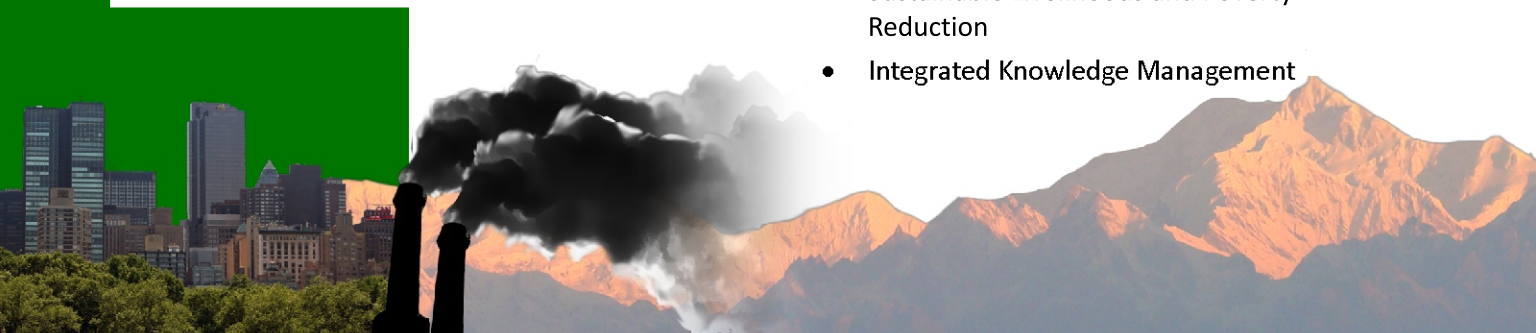
Other aspects

Livelihood and community forestry, poverty reduction, water management, cryogenic hazards

Thematic emphasis

The thematic emphasis takes from the three key strategic areas identified by ICIMOD which include water, environmental services, and livelihoods. Accordingly the thematic emphasis is detailed out under 4 programmatic areas:

- Integrated Water and Hazard Management
- Environmental Change and Ecosystem Services
- Sustainable Livelihoods and Poverty Reduction
- Integrated Knowledge Management



Richness and variety of content

The ICIMOD site comes across as content rich portal and serves to engage a serious reader of ‘mountain region development’ topics and issues.

The site has well populated sections on its thematic programme areas, information resources, regional information, and an exhaustive list of thematic topics. There is a fair amount of inter linkages between the content; this is supplemented by resources, both internal and external.

The pages about ICIMOD’s 4 programmatic areas are fed with complementary references to related thematic topics, upcoming events and conferences, downloads, external links and projects.

The *News and Events* section is comprehensive on regional news, press releases and events. The *Information Resources* Section has the searchable database - ICIMOD BOOKS ONLINE - that provides direct access to all ICIMOD publications in pdf and scanned formats.

The website also has 8 respective country pages for Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal and Pakistan.

Usability and interactivity

The ICIMOD website is fairly comprehensive and content heavy. The sections are well organised; however owing to many cross linkages the navigation may confuse a first time visitor.

Geo-focus

The site focuses on the eight regional member countries of the Hindu Kush-Himalayas – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan.



Multimedia and media portability

ICIMOD website has very less audio-video content which makes it text heavy. It also lacks social bookmarking facility. It only allows RSS feed.



Target audience

Regional member countries of the Hindu Kush-Himalayas, civil society, researchers and policy makers



Status of update

The content is updated on a daily basis



Discussion platform

The ICIMOD site does not offer much scope for content contribution and comment by readers. It has a discussion list component which is yet to be active. Interactivity-wise therefore the site is not very engaging.



Google page rank

7/10



SciDev

Promoting Organisations
DFID, SIDA, DGIS, IDRC

The Science and Development Network

www.scidev.net



Description

The Science and Development Network – is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to providing reliable and authoritative information about science and technology for the developing world to better-inform decisions on related issues. The aim is to foster integration of scientific knowledge and technological innovation into policies, programmes and projects for sustainable development of society.

Through the website the network gives a platform to policymakers, researchers, the media and civil society, where they can explore how science and technology can reduce poverty, improve health, and raise standards of living around the world. SciDev.Net is a part of Guardian's network of the world's best environment websites. It is also a part of AlertNet news network.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Adaptation and mitigation, bio-fuels, clean technology, climate and energy policy, fossil fuels, global warming, GHGs

Other aspects

Agriculture & environment, energy, health, new technologies, science & innovation policy, science communication

Thematic emphasis

The SciDev website, written mainly by Southern-based contributors, reports on and analyses the latest developments in science and technology that affect the developing world. The site expands its focus in over six key areas including:

- Agriculture & Environment
- Climate Change & Energy
- Health
- New Technologies
- Science & Innovation Policy
- Science Communication



Richness and variety of content

SciDev captures attention at first instance as a website focused on science, research, and development.

Neatly categorized as per its primary themes and 6 southern regions, the site offers a variety of content for the science-oriented reader. There is the latest news, features, opinions, editorials, policy briefs, practical guides, book reviews and other key documents.

The 6 primary themes are further unpacked into an extended list of sub-topics offering as a rich resource to follow southern perspectives to climate change, disaster management, new innovations, grassroots initiatives and environmental governance, and many related issues.

The site also provides cross links to regional science portals, networking tools and organisations, and other publications and information services.

Usability and interactivity

The SciDev website has an organized and aesthetic appeal. Clear sections and categories make for easy navigability of the content, while an uncluttered look aids in easy reading of articles here. Articles and news items are also available in other international languages. The site is however heavier on the text side, compared to images and other multimedia.

Geo-focus

The website spans focus across China, Latin America & Caribbean, Middle East & North Africa, South Asia, South-East Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa. The southern focus is however prominent with most content provided by Southern-based contributors.



Multimedia and media portability

The SciDev website is not very rich in multimedia. It allows RSS and web feeds. Language portability is between English, French, Spanish and Chinese.



Target audience

Climate analysts, researchers, policymakers, and practitioners at local, regional and global level.



Status of update

The content is updated on a daily basis.



Discussion platform

The SciDev website allows user comments on its articles. It also has a survey component to elicit user feedback and opinion, and generate discussions on the site content.



Google page rank

8/10

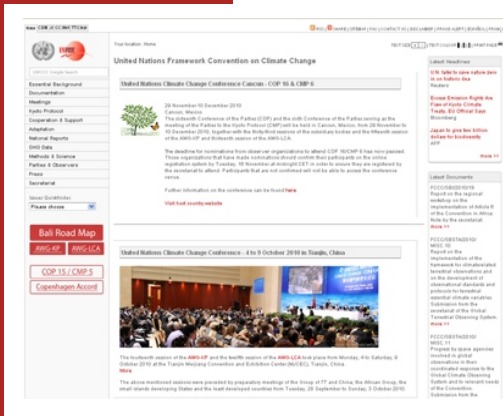


UNFCCC

Promoting Organisation
United Nations

UNFCCC

www.unfccc.int



Description

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is an international environmental treaty aimed at reducing emissions of greenhouse gases, pursuant to its supporters' belief in the global warming hypothesis.

The Convention sets an overall framework for intergovernmental efforts to tackle the challenge posed by climate change, recognising that the climate system is a shared resource whose stability can be affected by industrial and other emissions of greenhouse gases.

The UNFCCC site is the official site for the UN climate secretariat. It provides high-quality support to the intergovernmental process in the context of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol. It contains numerous resources for beginners and experts, the official UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol texts and a search engine to the UNFCCC library.

Thematic emphasis

The core objective of UNFCCC site is to present the Convention's actions, dialogues, negotiations, reports, and updates. The site expands its scope by providing high quality information and data on various climate change policies and the issue itself. Apart from this, the site also focuses on:

- UNFCCC framework
- Clean Development Mechanism
- Joint Initiatives
- Climate Change Information Network
- Technology Transfer Clearing House

HIGHLIGHTS

Kyoto protocol, greenhouse gas emissions, national policies and best practices, financial and technological support towards climate change adaptation



Richness and variety of content

The prime focus of the UNFCCC website is to provide information on the framework convention on climate change, and a complete background on different protocols.

The focus, centered on adaptation, is visible in the content which includes regularly updated convention information, factsheets, national reports, climate change policies, and GHG data.

The content is well laid out in multiple formats including news, events, videos resources, data, newsletters, events, etc.

The site further links to its sub-sections on Climate Change Information Network, Joint Implementation, CDM, and Technology Transfer Clearing House.

Usability and interactivity

The well-defined content architecture mounted over a straight menu system makes the navigation user-friendly on the UNFCCC site. The logical break down of the heavy content makes it impressively usable.

An information pane that appears on the right side helps the user to retrieve more information on the related topics of content. The Library and Documentation section offers a searchable database to the user.

The site also addresses the accessibility issue to an extent by providing options to adjust the font size and colour.



Geo-focus

International

Multimedia and media portability

The UNFCCC site has a good number of audio and video presentations. A host of community media tools increases the media portability largely and engages the user through social media. Spanish and French language versions are available for the site. The site also offers a decent amount of feed subscription options.



Target audience

Governments, policy makers, International climate change experts, NGOs, researchers



Status of update

The content is updated on a daily basis



Discussion platform

The scope for user comment and contribution is limited on the site. There is an interactive Google map based visualizer that enables the user to get data on emissions.



Google page rank

7/10



UNEP

Promoting Organisation
United Nations

United Nations Environment Programme

www.unep.org



Description

The voice for the environment within the United Nations system, UNEP acts as a catalyst, advocate, educator and facilitator to promote the wise use and sustainable development of the global environment. The mission is to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.

The website presents the span of UNEP's work under the broad theme of Environment for Development across the globe, with a variety of content for a diverse target audience.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Adaptation, mitigation, climate change science, outreach and communication, REDD

Other aspects

Disaster risk reduction, environmental cooperation for peace-building, ecosystem services, chemical safety, environmental assessment

Thematic emphasis

Under the broad purview of pursuing the theme of 'environment for development', there are 6 priority areas that define UNEP's focus on the environmental challenges of the 21st century. They are:

- Climate change
- Disaster and conflicts
- Ecosystem management
- Environmental governance
- Harmful substance
- Resources efficiency



Richness and variety of content

Being the key UN Agency for the environment, it is evident that the UNEP website will present a vast amount of information on the topic. The site impresses with the diversity in its content and has something for everyone.

It has the latest environmental news and multimedia from around the world, including TV, videos, animations and podcasts. Its publications section is a rich library of reports, periodicals, newsletters, e-books, and atlases, which can be referenced by a wide range of audience – from children to Government officials.

There are ample cross linkages in the site as well as external links to related resources and organisations. The UNEP site also maintains a comprehensive calendar of global events, and a separate section for the various awards it has instituted.

Usability and interactivity

The UNEP website is extremely content heavy. At the same time it is also very well organised, which ensures that a user does not get lost in the navigation when she is going through the huge library of reading material.

Geo-focus



UNEP website spans focus across Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, Latin America and Caribbean, North America and West Asia, and has portals for each region.

Multimedia and media portability



The UNEP website is very rich in multimedia content with videos, photos, film library, interviews, podcasts, animations, posters and even e-cards. The site can be followed on Facebook, Twitter and You Tube. The site is also available in Chinese and French versions.

Target audience



Environmentalists, policy makers, activists, students, Government officials, scientists, business people

Status of update



The content is updated on a daily basis

Discussion platform



Interactivity-wise the UNEP site has scope to be stepped up further. The site encourages readers to learn about UNEP Campaigns and Initiatives and join/support them as they can.



Google page rank
9/10



Unnayan Onneshan

Promoting Organisation
Unnayan Onneshan

Unnayan Onneshan

www.unnayan.org



Description

Unnayan Onneshan is a progressive think-tank based in Bangladesh that undertakes research for advancing ideas and building constituencies for social transformation. This is a not-for-profit trust that works to contribute towards solutions for endemic poverty, injustice, gender inequality and environmental degradation at the local, national and global levels.

The philosophy, ideas and actions of the organization focus on pluralistic, participatory and sustainable development and seek to challenge the narrow theoretical and policy approaches derived from unitary models of development. Its website offers a good read in a number of publications and reports which provide innovative ideas, alternative perspectives and critical approaches on topics such as food security, climate change, trade policy and livelihood, and macro economics.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Biodiversity and ecosystem services, disaster risk reduction

Other aspects

Macro economics, trade & aid, international economic relations, sustainable agriculture and livelihoods, health, gender rights, education

Thematic emphasis

In line with Unnayan Onneshan's mandate to further public interest research, its website focuses on aspects of critical scholarship, promotes interdisciplinary dialogue and amplifies grassroots perspectives. The function-based thematic focus areas are:

- Public policy
- Social policy
- Ecology and environment
- Working lives and social protection
- Perspective building and policy literacy



Richness and variety of content

A very academic looking website indicates Unnayan Onneshan's serious focus on research for policy advocacy.

The site showcases a large number of research reports that examine developmental intervention strategies and impacts, explore alternative concepts and indigenous perspectives, and reframe policy debates. These publications present a good and topical read, and are of much value to researchers in South Asia.

The site also features newsletters and external links to op-ed pieces and media reports along with event updates on seminars and conferences.

Usability and interactivity

The interface design and ease of navigation around the Unnayan Onneshan site is at a moderate level. The reports are presented in PDF formats and in some cases, in bi-lingual formats, which is appreciable.



Geo-focus

Bangladesh



Multimedia and media portability

The Unnayan Onneshan website presently features only text-based content. Multi-media content is yet to be incorporated into the site.



Target audience

Researchers, civil society and NGOs, policy makers and students



Status of update

The content is updated on a periodic basis



Discussion platform

The site does not feature tools for interactivity through which users could engage in the site.



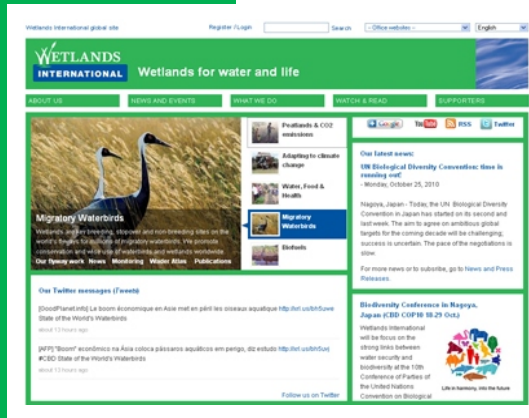
Google page rank

4/10



Wetlands International

www.wetlands.org



Description

Wetlands International is a global organisation that works to sustain and restore wetlands and their resources for people and biodiversity.

Based mostly in the developing world, they work in over 100 countries at different scales to tackle the most pressing problems affecting wetlands. Their work ranges from research and community-based field projects to advocacy and engagement with governments, corporate and international policy fora and conventions.

The Wetlands International website, through easy-read articles and videos, supports the organisation's efforts in informing people about the critical importance of wetlands, and how these unique ecosystems are intricately linked to a diversity of life-forms on the globe.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Peatlands and CO2 emissions, climate change adaptation, mangrove restoration, coastal protection

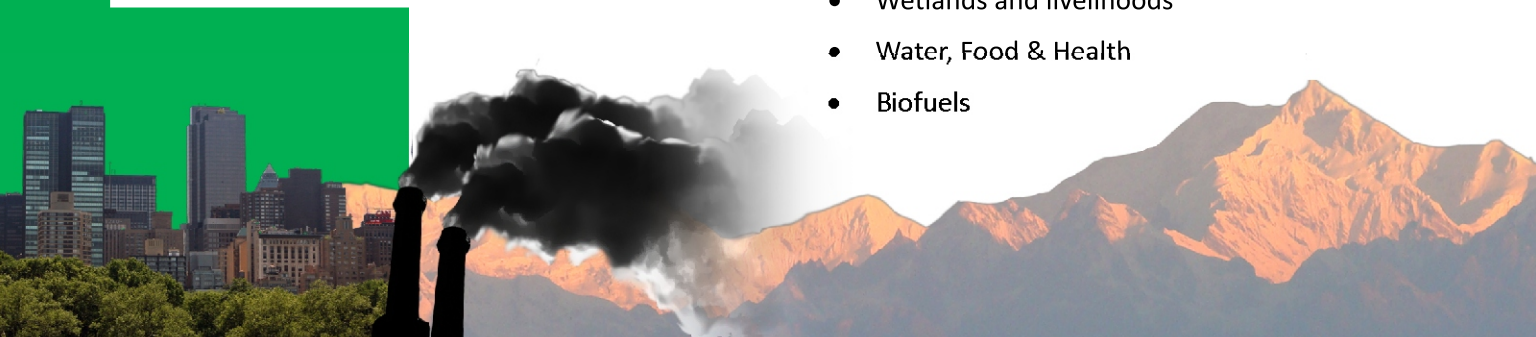
Other aspects

Ramsar Convention, migratory water birds and their census, water, food, health, bio-fuels

Thematic emphasis

Wetlands International works in many thematic areas throughout the world, but is the leading scientific expert on peatlands & climate change, as well as wetlands & waterbird migration. The core themes dealt with in the website are:

- Peatlands and CO2 emissions
- Adapting to climate change
- Biodiversity & waterbirds
- Wetlands and livelihoods
- Water, Food & Health
- Biofuels



Richness and variety of content

The website succinctly addresses the issues related to wetland ecosystems around the world. Starting with the official definition of these ecosystems to the latest in international policy dialogues on biodiversity, water and life, the website compiles much information around the subject.

It is of valuable reference to experienced conservationists working on the issue, as also to novices new to the field.

The site neatly categorises news, publications, policy briefs and videos on each of its thematic areas. Readers can check up events, newsletters, presentations and toolkits, and browse for information through external links on the site.

The website delivers the Ramsar Sites Information Service which includes a searchable Ramsar Sites Database with downloadable GIS data.

Usability and interactivity

Wetlands International has a well structured and user-friendly website. The content is categorised neatly as per the thematic areas and content-type; this helps the user to smoothly navigate through different sections on the site.



Geo-focus

The focus is international, with emphasis on developing nations

Multimedia and media portability

Multimedia content on the website include video, presentations & training tool kits. RSS feed is allowed for most of the content; the site is also updated on bookmarking and sharing on social networking sites. Language portability is allowed for regional portals in French, Japanese and Spanish.



Target audience

Conservationists, Policy Makers, Climate Experts, Students



Status of update

The content is updated regularly



Discussion platform

There is not much scope for user comment and contribution, but readers can download reports and newsletters. The 'Follow the Bird' section has an interactive map that allows readers to track the routes of migratory birds and see how wetlands are interlinked along their flyways.



Google page rank

6/10

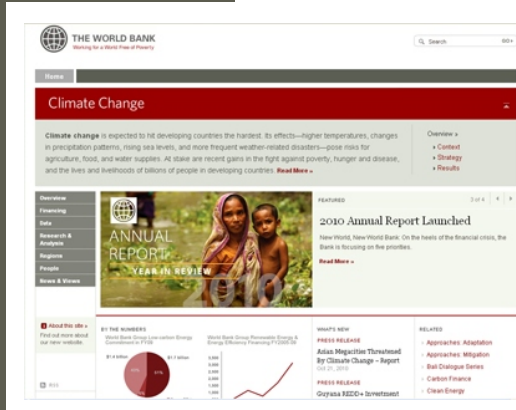


World Bank

Promoting Organisation
World Bank Group

World Bank

www.worldbank.org



Description

The World Bank Group supports developing countries to contribute to a global solution on climate change, while tailoring its approach as per the differing needs of its country partners.

It seeks to address climate change challenges through global cooperation across borders, building partnerships with member governments and organizations, and supporting development successes through climate-dedicated finance.

Its beta website offers as the integrated online space to find the full range of the Bank's activities and its information on climate change. It has all the latest news, project information, data, documents, and reports from across the organization, with more emphasis on feature materials and key results.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Adaptation, mitigation, carbon finance, greenhouse gas analysis

Other aspects

Clean energy, urban development, water, green economy

Thematic emphasis

The World Bank's website on climate change focuses on information dissemination from their research, projects, and framework strategies on climate change, and sharing lessons from their projects and partnerships. It spans its focus into several integrated areas that include:

- Renewable energy
- Green economy
- Adaptation and mitigation
- Emerging green technology



Richness and variety of content

The World Bank website states its intent as to engage with people to enable feedback and promote discussion, and generate the knowledge needed to address the challenges of development.

This is a neatly laid out website with the look and feel of a news website. The content is well catalogued under relevant sections, and supplemented by ample data, graphs, and links.

The thematic areas stock high quality information in different formats of content including featured stories, highlights, research analysis, case studies, reports, blogs, data, events, etc.

There is a Financing section on the Bank's climate investments and progress, and an interesting Data section which allows visualization of a variety of climate data into different forms like charts and maps.

Usability and interactivity

Well categorised management of content and a refined design interface make the World Bank website fairly user friendly for navigation and reference.

The sections are emphasised at different levels, and supplemented with additional resources and back-linkages to the main World Bank site. These help to enhance the reader's experience of the site.

Geo-focus



The focus uniformly spans over the regions of Africa, East Asia & Pacific, Europe & Central Asia, Latin America & Caribbean, Middle East & North Africa and South Asia.

Multimedia and media portability



The World Bank website has a limited, but good collection of multi-media content. There are some interesting photo galleries and videos. The site also facilitates subscription to RSS feed and sharing of content via email. However it is yet to join the social

Target audience



Researchers, NGOs, policy makers, business groups

Status of update



The content is updated regularly

Discussion platform



Data visualization is an interesting interactive component on the World Bank website. The site allows email recommendation of its web pages; users can also register to receive updates on climate change.



Google page rank

6/10





Description

The Worldwatch Institute is an independent research organization recognized by opinion leaders around the world for its accessible, fact-based analysis of critical global issues. It seeks innovative solutions to intractable problems, emphasizing a blend of government leadership, private sector enterprise, and citizen action that can make a sustainable future a reality.

The Institute's interdisciplinary research is based on the best available science, and focuses on the challenges that climate change, resource degradation, and population growth pose for meeting human needs in the 21st century.

Its website serves to leverage online presence to disseminate Worldwatch's research globally as resources for policymakers, professors, and citizens concerned with environmental sustainability.

Thematic emphasis

The Worldwatch website highlights the three priority areas across which the Institute spans its interdisciplinary research focus. These include:

- Climate and energy
- Food and agriculture
- Green economy

Beyond these priorities, the Institute also monitors human health, population, water resources, biodiversity, governance, and environmental security.

HIGHLIGHTS

Climate change

Low-carbon development, natural gas and sustainable energy, green transport, energy security, health

Other aspects

Sustainable agriculture, farming in cities, green jobs, sustainable economy, cultural transformation



Richness and variety of content

As the online space to disseminate leading research on sustainable development globally, the Worldwatch website is presented well. It carries an academic look and feel, and is succinct in its layout and communication.

Information on the site is laid out in various interesting formats under key areas. There are research reports, news articles, publications, events and happenings, and blog posts.

Further the e-newsletters and RSS feeds help users to stay updated on the latest in global sustainability analysis.

Vital Signs Online is another useful section on the site that provides the latest data and analysis of critical global trends like Energy & Transportation, Food & Agriculture, Global Economy & Resources, and Population & Society.

Usability and interactivity

Simple interface and logical organization of content makes navigation user-friendly across the Worldwatch site. Users can read and buy publications online, or subscribe to the newsletter on the site.

Geo-focus



The focus is international with specific focus on the two leading developing economies – China and India.

Multimedia and media portability

Most content on the Worldwatch website is text based with image support. But its blog sections are vibrant spaces with a lot of multimedia and interactive features for user comments, social bookmarking and translation into a number of languages. The site also allows RSS feed on its content.



Target audience



Policy makers, private sector, researchers, NGOs, professors, and citizens

Status of update



The content is updated from time to time

Discussion platform



Interactive audience polls on topics drawn from the key focus areas help to engage readers on the Worldwatch site.



Google page rank
6/10



