

Webinar: 'Biodiversity means Transition'

Organisers: Development Alternatives, The European Union Delegation and Green Economy Coalition

evelopment Alternatives along with the European Union Delegation (EUD) to India and Green Economy Coalition (GEC) co-organised a webinar, 'Biodiversity means Transition', on the theme 'Transitioning the policy pathway towards "greening" of post-COVID-19 economic recovery of India' on 12 August 2021. The webinar was a part of a webinar series hosted by the European Union Delegation (EUD) to India under the theme of 'Biodiversity means Life'.

The aim of this webinar was to discuss and share insights on the future road map of the recovery package of India, and also to highlight the policy gaps. In doing so, economic, social, and environmental sustainability issues were considered with special emphasis on natural capital and biodiversity. In addition, the webinar also focused on good policy practices, implementable solutions and policy strategies.

The event comprised participation of officials and policy experts from the Government of India, the NITI Aayog, multilateral organisations, academia, and civil society organisations along with representatives from the EU Delegation, Development Alternatives and Green Economy Coalition.

The panel discussion focused on 'Mainstreaming biodiversity and climate agenda in the road map of India's COVID-19 recovery package' wherein the panel experts talked about the following aspects:

- Major achievements of India towards making the economic recovery greener and inclusive
- The way management of biodiversity and natural capital can help in COVID-19 recovery and strengthen economic resilience
- Contribution that post-COVID-19 economic recovery strategies can make to deal with biodiversity and climate change issues



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- The way EU and India could help each other in the context of a sustainable green economic recovery
- Opportunities that India have for making the economic recovery greener
- Opportunities and scopes for private businesses for mainstreaming biodiversity and natural capital agenda in business operations
- Key areas of policy transformation in India that will have a strong impact on sustainability and greening as a whole
- The strategies/ actions that policy makers, practitioners and research community need to prioritise to drive a greener economic recovery in India

The panel discussion was followed by an engaging question answer session. And later an audience poll was conducted on the topic 'What European Union and India can do together to align the concerns of climate change and biodiversity in the transition to a green economic recovery?', which invited feedback from the audience and concluded with useful solutions.

