

POST-COP DIALOGUE

BEYOND BELÉM

Charting the Next Phase of Global
Climate Action



-  9th December 2025
-  9:30 am onwards (IST)
-  India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

ABOUT CHINTAN RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Chintan Research Foundation (CRF) is an emerging independent think tank dedicated to shaping policy through rigorous research and thought leadership. With a strong focus on fostering collaboration between policymakers and industry, CRF integrates practical insights into its research and advocacy efforts. It conducts comprehensive research to support informed decision-making and engages with stakeholders through discussions, events, and publications. CRF's research is focused on three core areas – Climate Change & Energy Transition, Economy & Trade, and Geopolitics & Strategic Studies.

ABOUT TERI

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) is an independent, non-profit research organization in New Delhi committed to advancing energy, environment, climate, and sustainable development solutions. Founded in 1974, it conducts cutting-edge research, policy analysis, and on-ground interventions to drive a cleaner and more resilient future. Working closely with governments, industry, and civil society, TERI shapes national and sub-national policies while also engaging globally through partnerships with multilateral institutions and think tanks, strengthening international climate action and South-South cooperation.

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BEYOND BELÉM: CHARTING THE NEXT PHASE OF GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION

BACKGROUND NOTE

For the first time since the landmark moment of the adoption of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Conference of the Parties (COP) returned back to Brazilian soil, lending COP30 a political significance. Setting the context for the negotiations, the Brazilian Presidency facilitated two major announcements in the week preceding to the conference. The joint Presidencies of the Baku and Belém COPs released the Baku to Belém Roadmap, outlining the mobilisation of USD 1.3 trillion annually for developing countries from all sources – including USD 300 billion in public finance from developed countries. From a developing-country perspective, this is potentially one of the most consequential pre-COP decisions that set the tone right before Belém rose the curtains for the further negotiations. Second important announcement was on the Tropical Forest for Forever Facility (TFFF). It is a Brazil-led investment fund, set up to provide a permanent financial incentive to developing countries to conserve their tropical forests. It aims to reward more than 70 developing tropical forest countries. The fund was officially endorsed by 53 countries at its launch with countries including Brazil and Indonesia making initial financial commitments to operationalise it.

The key agenda items of COP30 included, adoption of indicators to track progress on the Global Goal on Adaptation, finalization of the Just Transition Work Programme outlining a global understanding on just transition and cooperation to achieve it, a roadmap to implement the Baku outcome on the New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance, and conclusion of the Mitigation Work Program, among others. The COP30 saw sharp debates on two issues. First, a carry forward from the Baku COP last year, was the overall ambition on finance by developed countries under para 9.1 of the Paris



Agreement. Developing countries reiterated their disappointment with the goal of USD 300 billion per year by 2035 from developed countries and argued to continue negotiating the finance ambition. Developed countries insisted on focusing on implementing the decisions taken at Baku. The second issue was the demand from developed countries supported by many LDCs to commit on a timebound roadmap for fossil-fuel phase out. Developing countries opposed it, particularly in the absence of commensurate commitment on additional finance. These two issues, at one point, led to the fears that the negotiation process may collapse. In fact, many countries threatened of not accepting any decision from Belem if their agenda items were not adequately included.

Parties at COP30 are entering a decisive phase: following the first-ever Global Stocktake, negotiations in Belém converge on operationalising outcomes rather than drafting new declarations. The Brazilian Presidency has placed four interconnected pillars at the centre: a roadmap for decarbonisation, the New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance, activation of the Global Goal on Adaptation, and the establishment of a robust just-transition framework. While progress is evident, the briefings reveal a widening ambition-implementation gap – particularly for developing countries that face constrained access to predictable finance and weak adaptation support. Concurrently, the draft negotiating text exposes retreating commitment from some developed parties, especially on fossil-fuel phase-out and trade-restrictive measures. This agenda thus becomes the litmus test of the multilateral regime's ability to translate climate diplomacy into credible delivery. The outcome of the COP 30 – acknowledges that the first Global Stocktake (GST-1) marks the completion of the Paris Agreement's first implementation cycle and shows measurable progress in bending the emissions curve and advancing adaptation planning. The GST-1 also underscores that significant ambition and implementation gaps remain – particularly in adaptation and finance, and the urgency of accelerating action, strengthening multilateralism, and mobilizing scaled-up resources to keep 1.5°C within reach and build resilience. Despite aggressive stances taken by both sides of the Parties, the Brazilian Presidency was able to pull through agreements on a Global Mechanism on Just Transition, adoption of 60 indicators on Global Goal on Adaptation with flexibility to countries in their application, tripling of adaptation finance and a two year programme on implementing the Baku to Belem Roadmap on climate finance, opening a negotiation track on para 9.1 of the Paris Agreement on developed countries' obligation on climate finance, along with a promise from the Presidency to prepare a roadmap for consideration on fossil-fuel phase out by the next COP.

Arguably, the Belem outcome has commenced a new chapter of negotiations and diplomacy seeking synchronization across policy processes and actors, within and outside the UNFCCC process, deemed necessary for full and effective implementation of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. From multi-country initiatives like the International Solar Alliance and the Tropical Forests Forever Facility, the outside UNFCCC platforms have moved to the centre stage of implementation, providing a model of support that developing countries expect from developed countries. Yet, the negotiations on overall ambition on finance and credible decarbonization pathways also remain the core issues within the UNFCCC, with significant coordination with the actors such as multilateral development banks who are outside the UNFCCC process. Similarly, the agreement on Global Goal on Adaptation indicators as a harmonizing factor among the diverse national circumstances and specific vulnerabilities of countries reflect a two-tier mechanism.

It is within this context of navigating coordination challenges between rule-based agreement within the UNFCCC process and autonomous actors outside it, which seem to underpin the future of implementation, that CRF and TERI are convening a Post-COP Dialogue on “Beyond Belém: Charting the Next Phase of Global Climate Action,” designed to foster a focused deliberation on COP30’s decisions and their implications for on-ground climate action. Bringing together policymakers, practitioners, and experts, the dialogue will unpack the outcomes on mitigation, adaptation, and finance, and explore how India and other developing countries can navigate the evolving global landscape to strengthen domestic implementation pathways and safeguard equity within the climate regime.

The Dialogue will aim to go beyond immediate reactions and evaluations of the COP30 outcome and deliberate on the following questions:

1. What are the challenges for multilateral cooperation on climate change that underpinned COP30 negotiations, and how they may be dealt with at country, region, and global levels?
2. The shrinking carbon budget for meeting the Paris goals has made adaptation an equal, and perhaps, overriding priority for developing countries over mitigation. How does the COP30 outcome on the Global Goal on Adaptation reflect on this urgency? How should countries like India think about adaptation now?
3. How feasible is the implementation of the Baku to Belém Roadmap on climate finance in under current geopolitical circumstances? What additional burden does it put on developing countries?
4. What role should India play in protecting the process? Should it, at all?

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Schedule	Particulars
9:30-10:00 hrs.	Registration and Tea
10:00-10:40 hrs.	<p>Inaugural Session:</p> <p>Welcome Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Shishir Priyadarshi, President, Chintan Research Foundation (CRF)• Dr Vibha Dhawan, Director General, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) <p>Special Address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
10:40-12:00 hrs.	<p>Session 1</p> <p>Interpreting COP 30: Implications for Global Mitigation and Adaptation Targets</p> <p><i>The overarching objective of this discussion session is to unpack COP 30 decisions on global mitigation & adaptation goals and assess their implications for India's climate policy.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Mr R R Rashmi, Distinguished Fellow, TERI</p> <p>Panellists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms Leena Nandan, Former Secretary, Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change• Prof Ajay Mathur, School of Public Policy, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi• Ms Ruchika Drall, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change• Mr Kirtiman Awasthi, Senior Advisor and Programme Head, GIZ-India• Ms Suruchi Bhadwal, Senior Fellow and Programme Director, TERI <p>Framing Presentation by Dr Pooja Sehbag, Research Associate, CRF</p>
12:00-12:15 hrs.	Tea and Networking Break
12:15-13:30 hrs.	<p>Session 2</p> <p>Financing the Transition: COP 30 Outcomes on Climate Finance</p> <p><i>This session aims at exploring how COP 30 reshapes global climate finance flows and identify pathways for improved access and mobilisation for developing countries.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Ms Gaurie Dwivedi, Executive Editor, NDTV</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amb Manjeev Singh Puri, Distinguished Fellow, TERI• Dr Ashish Chaturvedi, Head, Action for Climate and Environment, UNDP India• Ms Neha Kumar, Head, South Asia, Climate Bonds Initiative• Mr Saliem Fakir, Executive Director, Africa Climate Foundation (Joining Virtually) <p>Framing Presentation by Dr Manish Kumar Shrivastava, Senior Fellow, TERI</p>
13:30 hrs.	Vote of Thanks (followed by Lunch)

SPEAKER'S PROFILE



Mr. Shishir Priyadarshi, President, Chintan Research Foundation

Mr. Shishir Priyadarshi, President of Chintan Research Foundation, was the first IAS officer to serve as Director of the WTO's Development Division in Geneva, working closely with the World Bank, IMF, UNCTAD, and OECD. With over two decades in the Indian Administrative Service, he contributed to economic and industrial policy at state and federal levels. A prolific author, he has published extensively on trade, development, and economic issues, and has held academic affiliations with institutions including LSE, ISB, NUS, IIT Delhi, University of Barcelona, and the World Trade Institute.



Dr. Vibha Dhawan, Director General, TERI

Dr. Vibha Dhawan's long-standing association with The Energy and Resources Institute dates back to 1985. From 2005 to 2007, she served as Vice-Chancellor of TERI School of Advanced Studies. She is a Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences, India, and currently also serves as an Adjunct Professor at the South Asia Partnership, Michigan State University. Driven by a deep academic and research passion, Dr. Dhawan has authored six books and more than 50 publications, which have significantly contributed to scientific research.



Mr. R R Rashmi, Distinguished Fellow, TERI

Mr. Rajani Ranjan Rashmi is engaged with the Green Shipping Programme of TERI as Distinguished Fellow. At TERI, Mr Rashmi works on issues relating to climate policy, strategy, carbon markets, and environmental sustainability. A retired officer of the Indian Administrative Service, Mr Rashmi is an expert on climate change related policies, strategy, actions, and international negotiations. He has been involved with formulation and implementation of public policies of the central and state government in the field of environment, commerce, and finance for over 35 years.



Ms. Leena Nandan, Former Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Ms. Leena Nandan is the former Secretary in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and a distinguished IAS officer of the 1987 batch. Her contributions to the ministry include her role in addressing climate change, promoting resource efficiency, and implementing green initiatives. At the COP27 Summit in Egypt, she emphasised the need to focus on adaptation and not just mitigation. She believes that adaptation lies at the heart of equity and climate justice and her leadership has been pivotal in shaping India's climate agenda, ensuring the country's commitment to sustainable development.



Prof. Ajay Mathur, Professor, IIT, Delhi

Prof. Ajay Mathur, School of Public Policy at IIT, Delhi was previously the Director General of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). He served as the interim Director of the Green Climate Fund during its foundational period, was a member of the Prime Minister of India's Council on Climate Change, and co-chair of the global Energy Transitions Commission and the Clean Cooling Initiatives of the One Planet Summit. His experience has led him to be a strong proponent of policy interventions to consider perseverance as a key to policy acceptance and sustainability.



Ms. Ruchika Drall, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Ms. Ruchika Drall is a Deputy Secretary at the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India. She has over 17 years of experience in climate change, environment, energy, sustainability, and E&S safeguards. Recognised as Asia's Most Influential Women Leaders in Renewable Energy, her work includes UNFCCC negotiations, climate adaptation, industry transition in hard-to-abate sectors, and climate finance. She has also been involved in the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Adaptation Fund, focusing on India's multilateral cooperation with various organizations.



Mr. Kirtiman Awasthi, Senior Advisor and Programme Head, GIZ-India

Mr. Kirtiman Awasthi currently serves as a Senior Advisor and Programme Head in the Climate Adaptation, Resilience and Climate Finance vertical at GIZ-India. Working closely with governments, communities, and private sector partners, his leadership has been pivotal in strengthening and operationalizing State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCCs). He has also contributed to global climate policy dialogues, having engaged in the UNFCCC processes on adaptation, loss and damage, capacity building, and the Durban Platform. His ability to bridge policy, practice, and partnerships has made him a trusted advisor to both national and state-level stakeholders in India.



Ms. Suruchi Bhadwal, Senior Fellow and Programme Director, TERI

Ms. Suruchi Bhadwal is a climate impacts, vulnerability and adaptation expert contributing to research and consultancy work for nearly 25 years now in related domains. Currently she leads the work on Climate Change and Air Quality at TERI with a focus on scientific assessments with linkages to policy and practice. Her main work focuses on undertaking climate risk assessments for various sectors including agriculture, water, health and infrastructure and developing strategies for Adaptation. She has been using mixed methods for her research with the use of quantitative and qualitative tools.



Amb. Manjeev Singh Puri, Distinguished Fellow, TERI

Amb. Manjeev Singh Puri is a Distinguished Fellow at TERI's Earth Science and Climate Change Division. A seasoned diplomat, he has served as India's Ambassador to the EU, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Nepal, and as Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN. He played a leading role in India's global climate and sustainable development negotiations, including the UNFCCC and the formulation of the SDGs. Renowned for his expertise in multilateral diplomacy, Mr. Puri continues to guide policy dialogues on climate change and international cooperation.



Dr. Ashish Chaturvedi, Head, Action for Climate and Environment, UNDP India

Dr. Ashish is currently leading the Climate and Environment action vertical at UNDP India. With over 17 years of experience in the environmental domain, his expertise spans community-based adaptation, waste management, sustainable consumption and production, and environmental policy. He has worked with leading research institutions and consultancies, and most recently served as Director of Climate Change and Circular Economy at GIZ, overseeing Indo-German cooperation. His work includes contribution to national and sub-national policy formulation and implementation of major government programmes, and is a prolific action researcher with wide-ranging publications in books and journals.



Ms. Neha Kumar, Head, South Asia, Climate Bonds Initiative

Ms. Neha Kumar is the Head of South Asia at the Climate Bonds Initiative, based in Delhi. She leads policy, strategy, and partnerships to strengthen climate risk management and build a sustainable financial ecosystem across the region. Her work focuses on transition and resilience finance, financial regulation, and the role of DFIs and MDBs in mobilizing green capital. With over 22 years of experience in responsible financing and climate policy, she contributes to several national committees on climate finance and taxonomy.



Mr. Saliem Fakir, Executive Director, Africa Climate Foundation

Mr. Saliem Fakir is a global thought leader at the intersection of climate and development and serves as Executive Director of the African Climate Foundation, which he founded to advance transformative climate solutions across Africa. He also chairs the Atlantic Special Economic Zone in South Africa, promoting clean technology and green industrial growth. With over two decades of multidisciplinary experience in climate policy, energy, and political economy, his work bridges science, finance, and development. He is also an adjunct senior lecturer at the University of Cape Town.



Ms. Gaurie Dwivedi, Executive Editor, NDTV

Ms. Gaurie Dwivedi is a seasoned journalist, author, and classical dancer with over 16 years of experience across leading media platforms, including The Economic Times and The Sunday Guardian. She works with USI and India Foundation on strategic, security, and geo-economic issues. Her acclaimed book *Blinkers Off* examines global responses to China's rise. A regular columnist and commentator, she has engaged with institutions like Hudson Institute and RAND. She is also an empanelled classical artist. She will be moderating a session on climate finance.



Dr. Manish Kumar Shrivastava, Senior Fellow and Associate Director, Earth Science and Climate Change, TERI

Dr. Manish Kumar Shrivastava is an inter-disciplinary researcher focusing on the intersection of science, society, and policy. His research explores issues pertaining to governance and justice, with a particular focus on the interaction of energy, technology, finance, and environmental policy in multi-level governance and fragmented society contexts. His recent work explores negotiations on market-based approaches for the shipping sector within the IMO, challenges and opportunities for financing industrial decarbonization in India, and localization of SDG implementation, climate co-benefits of air quality improvement interventions, integrating gender-justice concerns into climate policy, governance of geo-engineering, and the role of sub-national and non-state actors in scaling up climate action in developing countries.



Dr. Pooja Sehbag, Research Associate, Chintan Research Foundation

Dr. Pooja Sehbag is a Research Associate at the Centre for Climate Change and Energy Transition. She has earned her doctorate degree in International Relations from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India. She has worked on United Nations Climate Change Conferences: Case Studies of Copenhagen and Paris Processes" for her PhD. Areas of her research interest include international climate governance and politics, climate security, and climate policy.



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