

Enhancing human security in the context of climate change: Contributions from Indian and Australian social scientists

*A Workshop convened with support from
the Academy of Social Sciences Australia,
the University of Sydney, and the Tata
Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.*

14-15 June 2010,

Tata Institute of Social Sciences,

Sion-Trombay Rd, Deonar

MUMBAI



ACADEMY OF THE SOCIAL
SCIENCES IN AUSTRALIA



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

Introduction

India and Australia share an unwanted distinction of being in the front-line of climate change. Both countries possess long coastlines with coastal populations vulnerable to sea level rise. Both are highly susceptible to drought and an increased intensity of extreme weather events. The populations of both countries are highly dependent on water from river systems that are forecast to come under increasing stress due to reduced rainfall in catchments and resultant declines in stream flows. Agriculture is vital to the economic and livelihood concerns of both countries, and a consensus of global models suggest that an average global temperature rise of 4.4°C by 2080 would potentially reduce global agricultural productivity by up to 16%, but the reductions in India and much of Australia could be as high as 25%.

It was once said that cricket provided the fundamental link between our two countries, notwithstanding huge gulfs in culture, history and economic circumstance. Now, it appears, the two countries' futures are similarly framed by the challenges of mitigating and adapting to global climate change.

As social scientists in India and Australia, we are parties to the ways that individuals, communities and governments react and respond to these processes. Atmospheric scientists provide the raw data upon which knowledge of climate change processes proceeds, but it befalls social scientists to give these processes economic, social and cultural political meaning.

This Workshop is a first step in these directions. It has the aim to seeking to develop longer-term collaborative capacities to investigate these issues, both in India and Australia. By getting to know each other's work, new questions are raised, and new possibilities are opened.

Very deliberately, participants have been drawn from a diverse range of social science disciplines and fields of expertise. Some have broad expertise in the social, economic and political implications of climate change. Others draw on research on these themes in either India or Australia. Others still have been invited to participate because although their field of expertise might be not directly related to climate change per se, they bring particular skills and knowledge about an issue of key significance to debates on climate change (for example, the economics of energy, or food security). By structuring the Workshop in this way, our intention has been to seek to provoke open debate and new, innovative perspectives, approaches and research questions on these issues.

Notwithstanding the objective to think broadly and innovatively about these issues, we wish the Workshop to use the concept of *human security* as a touchstone to its deliberations. Climate change is an emerging human security risk. During the past decade, the concept of human security has emerged as a key conceptual device to theorise society-environment relations, with the focus primarily being on mitigation rather than adaptation. The emergence of comparable thematic



constructs such as the livelihoods approach reframes the social scientist's gaze to the scale of individual struggles.

The major focus in the Workshop is on discussion on the effects of climate change from a human security perspective. Broadly, a human security perspective requires examination of the effects of climate change on various aspects of human beings' security – inclusive of economic, geo-political, environmental, food, etc. The prospect of ongoing climate change, of course, does not leave all social actors equally vulnerable; among different social actors (be they individuals, households or communities) is there not an equal capacity for resilience or adaptation. Connecting the social science of climate change with the social science of human security therefore provides an entry point to tease out how the recursive interplay of social, economic and political processes attached to climate change generates new stratifications within and across households, communities, regions and countries.

The Workshop program seeks to give space for these considerations by allocating significant time for open discussion. We want the workshop participants to actively consider how new collaborations and networks can be formed out of our collective resources. We want this Workshop to be an *Ideas Masala*.

With this in mind, we wish two tangible outcomes from the Workshop. Firstly, we need to consider how best to publish the ideas we develop. Secondly, we would like to investigate the possibility of a follow-up event in Australia, during the first half of 2011, potentially funded through the Australian Leadership Awards Fellowship (ALAF) scheme.

Finally, the origins of this Workshop derive from a scoping visit to Mumbai in 2008 by delegates from the Academy of Social Sciences Australia (ASSA). Subsequently, the University of Sydney and the Tata Institute of Social Sciences lodged a successful joint application for funding through ASSA's International Program Committee. This funding was then matched by an additional amount from the University of Sydney's International Program Development Fund, and the Tata Institute of Social Sciences contributed space, facilities and logistical support for this event.

Thank you for participating in the workshop. We hope and trust it will be a rewarding experience for all.

Assoc Prof Madhushree Sekher

Assoc Prof Bill Pritchard

Tata Institute of Social Sciences

University of Sydney

Joint organisers, workshop on 'Enhancing human security in the context of climate change: Contributions from Indian and Australian social scientists'



Program

Monday 14 June

- 9.30am Welcome to participants.
Professor S. Parasuraman, Director, Tata Institute of Social Sciences
- 9.45am Opening remarks about the Workshop:
Assoc Prof Madhushree Sekher, Tata Institute of Social Sciences
- Session 1. Chair: Prof S. Parasuraman, TISS Mumbai
- 9.50am “Human Security and Climate Change: Connecting the Unachievable to the Unthinkable?” Assoc Prof Bill Pritchard, University of Sydney
- 10.10am “Human Security and Climate Change- The Sociological/Normative Perspective”
Prof N. Jayaram, Tata Institute of Social Sciences
- 10.30am Morning tea
- 10.50am Discussion
- 11.15am Session 2. Chair: Assoc Prof Bill Pritchard, University of Sydney
- “Human Security and Climate Change” Prof Chandan Sengupta, Tata Institute Social Sciences
- 11.35am “The Material and Psychosocial Challenges of Climate Change and Migration”
Assoc Prof Jon Barnett, University of Melbourne
- 11.55am “Conflict in the Development Model: Environmental Policy vs Industrial Policy,”
Prof. G. Hargopal, Central University Hyderabad
- 12.15pm Discussion
- 1.00pm Lunch
- 2.00pm Session 3. Chair: Prof N. Jayaram
- “Food Security Concerns vis-à-vis Climate Change Challenges” Prof. Venkatesh Athreya, MS Swaminathan Research Foundation and Tata Institute of Social Sciences
- 2.20pm “Climate Change and Food Prices with Special Reference to South Asia”, Assoc Prof Jay Bandarlage, Griffith University
- 2.40pm “Climate Change and Food Security: How Institutions Address the Challenge?”
Assoc Prof Madhushree Sekher, Tata Institute of Social Sciences
- 3.00pm Discussion
- 3.30pm Afternoon tea
- 4.00pm First discussion on future directions from the Workshop
Chair: Bill Pritchard.
Short presentations from Danielle Penn, University of Sydney;
Paul McShane, Monash University
- 5.00pm Close. Dinner: details to be announced at Workshop



Tuesday 15 June

- 9.30am Session 4. Chair: Prof. Chandan Sengupta
“Changing Climate and its Impacts on Land Use and Land Cover: Science-Policy Interface for Climate in Karnataka” Dr. Sunil Nautiyal, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore
- 9.50am “Environmental security through regional cooperation: the case of India and Bangladesh” Prof Bob Pokrant, Curtin University
- 10.10am “Food Insecurity and Maternal Nutritional Outcomes in India” Assoc Prof Anu Rammohan & Niyi Awofeso, University of Western Australia.
- 10.30am “Mass Poverty and Climate Change: Thinking about Scenarios” Prof Marika Vicziany, Monash University
- 10.50am Morning tea
- 11.30am Discussion
- 12.00pm Session 5. Chair: Assoc Prof. Dilip Dutta
“Climate change: lives, livelihoods and exports”, Assoc Prof Phil McManus, University of Sydney
- 12.20pm Developing Integrated catchment management strategies for sustainable water use in response to Climate Change”, Dr Paul McShane, Monash University
- 12.40pm “Water Security in Urban India” Dr. Abdul Shahban, Tata Institute of Social Sciences
- 1.00pm Discussion
- 1.30pm Lunch
- 2.30pm Session 6. Chair: Prof. Bob Pokrant
“Human Security and Climate Change: A Socio-Economic Analysis of Paths Ahead in India’s Energy use & climate adaptation” Assoc Prof Dilip Dutta, University of Sydney
- 2.20pm “Marginalization and Socio-Economic Securities” Prof A. Ramaiah, Tata Institute of Social Sciences
- 2.40pm Discussion
- 3.00pm Second discussion on future directions from the Workshop
Joint chairs: Madhushree Sekher & Bill Pritchard
- 4.00pm Close of Workshop and afternoon tea.

Dinner: details to be advised.



Details for Australian participants on travel and accommodation

June is hot in Mumbai. Participants should expect daily temperatures of around 35° C (max) and 27° C (min), and if the southwest monsoon arrives as expected, the first few downpours of the season.

Arriving at Mumbai Airport

Mumbai International Airport (Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport) is a modern facility, recently renovated. Foreign exchange desks are present at the Mumbai Airport International arrivals hall, but to be on the safe side, participants from Australia should try to obtain Indian Rupees prior to arrival. ATMs in major commercial Indian banks accept major Australian debit and credit cards. Australian mobile phones should be able to pick up a signal from a local provider in India. (Though watch out for the costs of calls!)

Accommodation

Participants will stay at the Guest House, at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences. This is a brand new, multi-storey building. Each participant will have her/his own suite. The seminar room we will be using for the workshop is on the top floor of the Guest House. A catered dining room (for breakfasts etc) is also located in the Guest House.

Taxis

For participants arriving at 2.40am, I've made special arrangements. All others should get a pre-paid taxi from inside the arrivals hall. (Pre-paid taxis are safe; don't accept any offers from any other drivers.) The TISS campus is approximately 40 minutes from the International Airport by taxi at night. During peak times, it might take considerably longer. The address is:

Tata Institute of Social Sciences main campus

V.N. Purav Marg (also known as the Sion Trombay Road)

Deonar, Mumbai

(To assist taxi drivers, it is opposite the Deonar Bus Depot.)

The security guards at the TISS front gate are there 24 hours/day, and will be advised of the time and date of your arrival. Keys for the Guest House will be left with security.

For any problems, note the following mobile phone numbers (India's country code is +91. Mumbai's area code is 22):

- Mr Mustafa Momin (in charge of Workshop logistics) 9223354976
- Assoc Prof Madhushree Sekher 9969747051
- Bill Pritchard (local India number) 9840850339

The TISS switchboard number is **(+91) (22) 25525000**



A number of participants are arriving in Mumbai on the same flights. Obviously, it makes sense to coordinate taxi arrangements for the transfer out of Chhatrapati Shivaji Airport to TISS. I'll leave this in individuals' hands to coordinate.

Australians' arrivals

Wed 9 June	9.50pm	Bill Pritchard to arrive
Saturday 12 June	10.35am	Jay Bandaralage arrives on SQ422 from Singapore
	9.50pm	Anu Rammohan arrives on Jet Airways (codeshare Qantas) from Singapore
	11.05pm	Dilip Dutta and Danielle Penn arrive on SQ424 from Singapore.
Sunday 13 June	2.40am	Jon Barnett and Paul McShane arrive on QF 51 from Singapore.
	9.50pm	Phil McManus & Bob Pokrant arrive on Jet Airways (9W11, code share Qantas 3851) from Singapore
	evening	Marika Vicziany & Sharmini Sherrard to arrive

Email contacts are:

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Paul McShane	paul.mcshane@msi.monash.edu.au
Sharmini Sherrard	Sharmini.sherrard@adm.monash.edu.au

Departures from Mumbai

Five participants are on QF52, departing Mumbai Wednesday 16th June at 10.05am:

- Bill Pritchard; Jon Barnett; Phil McManus; Anu Rammohan; Bob Pokrant

Other known departure details:

- Danielle Penn departs on Singapore Airlines Thursday 17th June 12.20am
- Jay Bandaralage departs on Singapore Airlines Thursday 17th June 11.30am
- Dilip Dutta, Sharmini Sherrard and Marika Vicziany have other domestic travel plans in India

