



INDIAN
NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION

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11th and 12th October, 2018

Resource Efficiency and Jobs : Opportunities for Business and Policy

*2018 Annual Conference
Bombay Stock Exchange, Mumbai, India*



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India is today among the world's most rapidly growing economies. It is also home to a population of working-age youth that constitutes one of the largest potential labor forces anywhere. This combination of factors has led many to believe that the “demographic dividend” it produces will automatically drive our nation to the top of the global economic ladder within a few decades.

With less than 30% of India living in urban areas, we also have the largest agrarian population, a majority of which will probably want to move to the cities in the coming decades. Our job markets are experiencing deep macro-structural changes from farming to other occupations. At the more micro-structural level, the drive for global competitiveness and higher productivity is revolutionizing activity in all economic sectors such as manufacturing, construction, trade and transport. The pursuit of “economic efficiency” is now forcing all sectors of the economy to adopt technologies – mechanization, chemicalization, genetic manipulation, robotics, data analytics, and artificial intelligence – that raise productivity. But, these can also have a huge potential impact – often negative – on both social goals, such as loss of jobs, identity and lifestyles, and environmental objectives such as the health and productivity of land, water and air.

Following the previous four Annual Conferences of the Club of Rome-India, which were devoted to Resource Security Issues (covering Food in 2014, Water in 2015, Land, Soils and Forests in 2016, and Materials in 2017), the 2018 Annual Conference will reflect upon various relationships and trade-offs among consumption patterns, and production systems, with particular focus on technology choices, policy alternatives, and economic instruments that can achieve a desirable balance between material wellbeing, jobs and livelihoods, and the management of our natural resources to attain a sustainable, healthy future for all. Its deliberations will be structured under five themes:

1. Enhancing Future livelihoods in Rural India
2. Balancing Environmental Concerns and Employment opportunities in Infrastructure development
3. Harmonizing employment and quality of life in urban India
4. Harnessing India's youth dividend in Emerging Service Sectors -Finance, Service industry, Renewable, IT and Telecom
5. Nurturing MSMEs for job creation: Facilitating India's aspiration to be a manufacturing pivot

Targets:

1. Enabling policies for sustainable growth in the job market.
2. Food and nutrition security of the farming households.
3. Technological upgradation in agriculture sector to increase livelihood.
4. Creating growth opportunities for marginalised segments.
5. Exploring alternative strategies for rural infrastructure.
6. Effective implementation of zero defect, zero effect and circular economy.
7. Encourage environmental friendly entrepreneurship and resource efficiency.
8. Facilitate a centralised system of data management- jobs and resources use.
9. Skill enhancement in MSMEs, maintain gender balance, social securities, etc.

THE DEBATE NEEDED TODAY

The three different dimensions Environmental, Social and Economics are associated with Sustainable

Resource Efficient Livelihoods and Jobs



Outcome Of The Conference

Indian National Association for the Club of Rome envisions creating a platform for debate and consultations for livelihoods in agriculture and its allied sectors, more efficient use of existing resources, new initiatives in MSMEs-India and skilled based service sector Indian National Association for the Club of Rome, Annual Conference on 11 and 12 October 2018, will bring together top national and international experts, thought leaders, policymakers. It will look deeply into existing or proposed policies that have counter-intuitive implications for securing the livelihood.

Given the importance of MSMEs to the national economy, much more needs to be done to formalize the labour laws, environmental performance, and resource efficiency expected of them and to set up the support mechanisms – knowhow, technology access, financial support and skill development – that they require to enable them to play a truly constructive role in the economy.

Outcome 1: A roadmap for resource efficient jobs in India

Outcome 2: Sector-wise policy recommendations on enhancing resource efficiency

Outcome 3: Case studies on successful initiatives towards resource efficiency

Outcome 4: Research-based report on resource efficiency in the construction sector

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Those interested to participate in this interface between scientific approach and major policy issues may contact:

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