



Pune Knowledge Cluster in Collaboration with Agharkar Research Institute *Presents*

COURSE ON “A PRIMER ON BIODIVERSITY AND ECOLOGY OF FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS OF THE WESTERN GHATS

Organized By	Pune Knowledge Cluster (PKC)
In Collaboration With	Agharkar Research Institute
Date	15 th April 2021 to 30 th April 2021
Location	The course will be conducted in an online mode.
Course Duration	The course consists of 15 online sessions (10:30 –11:30 am) followed by 2 days of laboratory (Agharkar Research Institute, Pune) and field demonstrations (Near Pune)
Course Description	The Western Ghats is lauded as a biodiversity hotspot for the last four decades based on its terrestrial biodiversity. However, the freshwater biodiversity of this region is underappreciated. Water bodies in the Western Ghats support the entire Peninsular India by providing water for drinking, irrigation, and hydro power generation and sustaining nearly 40 crore people across eight states.
For whom	The course is designed for doctoral students, post-doctoral fellows, young investigators from the industry and academia, research/science managers, CTOs and CSOs, in and around Pune.
Potential Gains	This course will introduce various biological components of the freshwater ecosystems of the Western Ghats with a food chain-based approach. The course will be conducted between 15 and 30 April 2021 and will include 15 lectures (one hour), a laboratory visit, and a one-day field trip. The participants gained basic knowledge about various groups of freshwater organisms and the need and ways for their conservation.
Registration Fees	There is no registration/participation charges
Speaker	<p>Dr. Karthick Balasubramanian, Agharkar Research Institute, Pune</p> <p>Prof. Raymond A Duraiswami, Dept of Geology, SPPU Pune</p> <p>Dr. MD Subash Chandran, Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc, Bangalore</p> <p>Dr. Sameer Padhye, Biological Life Science, Pune</p> <p>Dr. Aravind Madhyastha, ATREE, Bangalore</p> <p>Dr. Rajeev Raghavan, Kerala University of Fisheries & Ocean Studies, Kochi</p> <p>Prof. Biju Kumar, Department of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries, University of Kerala</p>



	<p>Mr. Nisarg Prakash, Wildlife Biologist, Bangalore</p> <p>Dr. Vidyadhar Atkore, Worldwide Funds for Nature, New Delhi</p> <p>Dr. Joyce Jose, Assistant Professor of Zoology, St. Thomas College, Thrissur</p> <p>Ms. Neethi Mahesh, Wildlife Conservation Society, Bangalore</p> <p>Dr. Jagadesh Krishnaswamy, ATREE, Bangalore</p> <p>Dr. KV Gururaja, Srishti Manipal Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Bangalore</p> <p>Mr. Samadhan Pardhi and Mr. Vigneshwaran</p>
No. of seats	The number of seats are limited to 30.



Schedule of the course

Date	Title	Speaker
15/04/2021	Freshwater Ecosystem of Western Ghats An introduction to the systems and the course	Dr. Karthick Balasubramanian, Agharkar Research Institute, Pune
16/04/2021	The Geological Evolution of the Western Ghats from 3.2 Billion years to present	Prof. Dr Raymond A Duraiswami, Dept of Geology, SPPU Pune
16/04/2021	On the ecological history of the Western Ghats	Dr. MD Subash Chandran, Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc, Bangalore
17/04/2021	Diatoms - The primary producer of Western Ghats streams.	Dr. Karthick Balasubramanian, ARI Pune
19/04/2021	Primary consumers in the freshwater habitats of Western Ghats - Freshwater 'fairies' and 'fleas'	Dr. Sameer Padhye, Biologia Life Science, Pune
20/04/2021	Primary consumers of Western Ghats Streams Part 2 (Macroinvertebrates)	Dr KA Subramanian, Southern Regional Centre, Zoological Survey of India, Chennai
21/04/2021	Primary consumers of Western Ghats Streams Part 3 (Mollusks)	Dr. Aravind Madhyastha, ATREE, Bangalore
22/04/2021	Secondary consumers of Western Ghats Streams Part 4 (Fishes)	Dr. Rajeev Raghavan, Kerala University of Fisheries & Ocean Studies, Kochi
23/04/2021	Secondary consumers of Western Ghats Streams Part 3 (Freshwater crabs)	Prof. Biju Kumar, Department of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries, University of Kerala
23/04/2021	Tertiary Consumers : The Mammals of Rivers of Western Ghats A Case of River Otters	Mr. Nisarg Prakash, Wildlife Biologist, Bangalore
24/04/2021	Impact of dams in Western Ghats Rivers and its biodiversity Case from Fishes	Dr. Vidyadhar Atkore, Worldwide Funds for Nature, New Delhi
24/04/2021	Myristica Swamps of Western Ghats A micro biodiversity hotspot within hotspot	Dr. Joyce Jose, Assistant Professor of Zoology, St. Thomas College, Thrissur
26/04/2021	Western Ghats Riverine Ecosystem Restoration	Ms. Neethi Mahesh, Wildlife Conservation Society, Bangalore
27/04/2021	Ecohydrology of Rivers of the Western Ghats	Dr. Jagadesh Krishnaswamy, ATREE, Bangalore
28/04/2021	Ecosystem services of stream - dwelling amphibians of the Western Ghats	Dr. KV Gururaja, Srishti Manipal Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Bangalore
29/04/2021	An introduction to limnology and methods (Lab)*	Mr. Samadhan Pardhi, Mr. Vigneshwaran
30/04/2021	One Day Field trip to Mula-Mutha River Basin* *Subject to COVID - 19 norms	Mr. Samadhan Pardhi, Mr. Vigneshwaran



	<p>About the Organizers:</p> <p>The Pune Knowledge Cluster (PKC) has been established by the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India. The aim is to bring together academia, R&D institutions and the industry of Pune and its surrounding areas, to address the challenging problems of the region through innovative means, using scientific knowledge and engaging highly skilled human resources. Furthermore, PKC aims to foster capacity building and promote skills development and entrepreneurship among the students and professionals of the city. All relevant organizations and experts will be partners and consulted to identify sustainable solutions to the problems of the city and improve its livability and prosperity.</p> <p>While the PKC is administered by the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), it is a project of and for the whole city. In the initial phase, PKC would focus on air, water, health, and sustainable mobility. For more information, visit: https://www.pkc.org.in/</p>
	<p>The Institute, founded in 1946 as the Maharashtra Association for the Cultivation of Science Research Institute, was renamed in 1992 as the Agharkar Research Institute (ARI) in honour and memory of the Founder Director, the late Professor Dr. Shankar Purushottam Agharkar. The ARI is an autonomous research institution fully funded by the Department of science and Technology (DST) government of India, since 1966. It operates under the overall umbrella of the Maharashtra Association for the Cultivation of Science (MACS).</p> <p>The institute is committed to the promotion of science and technology with emphasis on high standards of research and development activities for the benefit of human kind and the nation.</p>