

05 -07
FEBRUARY
2020



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
**RIVERS FOR
FUTURE**

Focal Theme: River restoration for mitigation of natural hazards

Organised by

Department of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries,
University of Kerala, India

In association with

Centre for Innovation in Science and Social Action (CISSA),
Thiruvananthapuram, India

CONFERENCE | EXHIBITION | COMPETITIONS

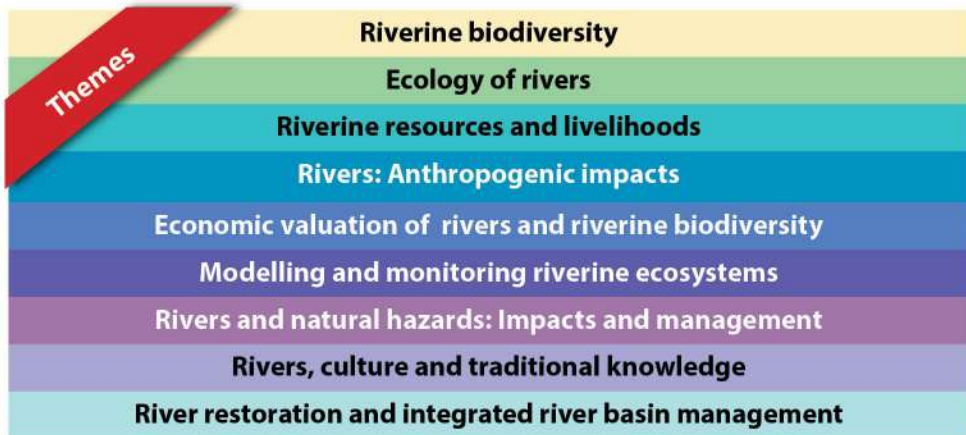
Venue: Dept of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries, University of Kerala, Karyavattom, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India

Background

Rivers, the cradles of human civilizations, are the primary sources of drinking water and the economic engines of majority of nations, ensuring sustainable livelihood of millions across the world, besides supporting rich biodiversity and ecosystem services. Rivers deliver sediment that keeps deltas above rising seas, provide nutrients to fertilise floodplain fields and support coastal fisheries, and mitigate the impact of extreme climatic events. River ecosystems encompass river channels and its floodplains and form a diverse mosaic of habitats with the riparian area at the transition zone between the land and water. Despite their value and importance, many rivers and wetlands are being severely damaged by human activities and are declining at a much faster rate than terrestrial ecosystems. Rivers all over the world have been impacted due to habitat destruction, modification and fragmentation, encroachment, over exploitation of resources, pollution, invasive alien species and climate change. Damage to river systems, degradation of their quality and ability to perform important functions bring about major consequences, leading to long-term economic losses, affecting the population's quality of life as a whole. The devastating floods in Kerala state of India in the recent past are sober reminders of climate change's destructive path, and a profile of increasing furies and extreme climatic events under changing climate regimes. As reported in the WWF report on "Valuing Rivers", we urgently need to stop regarding rivers as simply conduits for moving waterflow through our communities, cities and countries. The growing economic profile of water creates a generational opportunity to do exactly this and to reconnect people with rivers – before more of their 'hidden' benefits are lost or degraded, especially in fighting natural hazards. Moreover, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 6 focuses on water and encompasses a range of values for water, with sub-goals focused on water quality, equitable access, efficient use by various sectors, improved governance, and the protection and restoration of rivers. The United Nations General Assembly declared 2021–2030 as the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, and warranting our attention more on restoring the rivers, which are imperilled by anthropogenic interventions.

Focal Theme

River restoration for mitigation of natural hazards



Objectives

This multidisciplinary conference, **RIVERS FOR FUTURE (RFF 2020)**, is proposed with the following objectives:

To provide a broader picture on the current state of rivers and riverine biodiversity and to discuss the future of rivers.

To highlight the importance of riverine ecosystem and biodiversity in terms of sustenance of ecosystem services, livelihood security, and mitigation of natural hazards.

To understand the current status of integrated river restoration and management programmes across the world and to discuss the strategies for future.

To learn the science of river restoration, especially towards managing natural hazards, with special focus on rivers in the Western Ghats biodiversity hotspot.

Participants

Researchers, academicians, citizen scientists involved in river conservation, policy makers and students



Registration

Permanent faculty/scientist: Rs. 4000/-
(International Delegates: US\$ 100)
Research scholars: Rs. 2000/- (Intl. US\$ 50)
Students: Rs. 1000/- (Intl. US\$ 50)



Dates to Remember

Last date for submission of abstract:
15/Jan/2020
Last date for registration: **30/Jan/2020**
Conference dates: **5 - 7/ Feb/2020**

Article Publication

The full papers submitted for RFF 2020 will be reviewed and selected papers will be published in the special issues of the Journal of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries (UGC CARE listed).

Contact Address

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Organising Committee

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Submission of Abstract

The abstract (maximum 300 words) in MS Word prepared in the format of the Journal of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries (<http://keralamarinelife.in/JournalofAquaticBiologyandFisheries.html>) may be sent as email attachment to: **riverforfuture2020@gmail.com**

The title of the paper centered with bold capital letters (14 font Times New Roman)
Name of the author(s) centered in bold letters (12 font Times New Roman)
Address(es) of the author(s) with pincode and e mail. The name of the corresponding (with astrix) and presenting author(s) (with underline) should be specifically mentioned (12 font Times New Roman- normal font).
Keywords (max: 5), avoiding duplication with the title

Registration

Submit the registration fee along with the prescribed registration form.

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