

International Symposium  
on



# Combating Climate Change in C40 Megacities

**Date** : April 22, 2015

**Venue** : Hotel Kenilworth, 1 & 2, Little Russel Street, Kolkata, West Bengal  
American Corner at Guwahati, Assam  
American Corner at Patna, Bihar

**Time** : 08.30 Hrs to 17.00 Hrs.



Organized by



## Background

C40 is a global network of large cities -mega cities - taking action to address climate change by developing and implementing policies and programs that generate measurable reductions in both greenhouse gas emissions and climate risks. The work of the C40 Cities is critical for reducing carbon emissions worldwide, and there is much more to be done. With an eye towards this, cities are gearing up to join the C40 forum with Dhaka, Bangladesh and Thimphu, Bhutan already participating. The U.S. Consulate in Kolkata in collaboration with the South Asian Forum for Environment (SAFE) is organizing an international symposium on combating climate change impacts in an urban setting to present an opportunity for the Indian cities to develop unified city-level goals in climate mitigation.

This Global and Local Knowledge Conference on Climate Change in three cities Kolkata, Guwahati and Patna, aims to encourage the cities to develop their own goals and find a place among the C40 group of cities. Experts from neighboring C40 cities of Bangalore, Delhi, Thimphu and Dhaka, will address world environmental issues highlighting the challenges faced by local population in the region. It will be a one day event in Kolkata with Patna and Guwahati connected electronically. Each city will showcase activities that can effectively address local environmental issues.

Recommendations of the symposium will help lead the cities into the league of the C40 Climate Leadership Group

## Main objectives of the event

1. To bring together urban stakeholders from India and the United States to address issues of climate change and formulate plans to mitigate environmental concerns in the urban setting.
2. To foster collaboration and partnership among stakeholders and policy makers from India and the United States to address urban environmental issues including developing a robust regulatory framework.
3. To provide access to climate change stakeholders and develop a status report and recommendations on addressing climate change in Kolkata, Patna, and Guwahati.
4. To showcase best practice models and initiatives to key stakeholders and policy makers.

## Conference Topics in the Three Cities

1. Urban Solid Waste Management & Energy Conservation
2. Urban Wetland Management & Biodiversity
3. Diseases and Impact of Climate Change on Urban Health
4. Framing the Economics of Climate Change in Mega Cities
5. Disaster Preparedness in the Urban Context

## Outcomes

- Provide a select team of conference representatives with the information they need to be able to present the status report and recommendations to key policymakers in the three cities and advocate for these three cities' to join the C40 group.
- Initiate an Urban Public Leadership group identified during the conference for developing regulatory frameworks.

## Registration

All participants are requested to pre-register for attending the symposium and actively participate in the discussion following the technical sessions. To register please send a mail to Amrita Chatterjee, Convener, C40 Megacities Symposium, SAFE Kolkata at [amrita@safeinch.org](mailto:amrita@safeinch.org) mentioning the following in the mail:

1. Name
2. Organization / Department
3. Designation / Affiliation
4. Area of Interest / specialization
5. Proof of Identity (Please mention the number of your ID proof)

Those who do not have access to mails may please send your registration details through speed post to

**South Asian Forum for Environment**  
Administrative Office  
P32 J.U.E Housing Society  
PO: Panchasayar, West Bengal: 700094, India

## Symposium Programme

“International Symposium on Combating Climate Change in C40 Mega Cities”  
Hotel Kenilworth, Kolkata WB, American Corner Patna, American Corner Guwahati  
April 22, 2015

### Programme Schedule:

08.30 am – 09.30 am	Registration
Inaugural Session	Kolkata – Hotel Kenilworth – Video Relay Session to Patna & Guwahati
9.30 am – 9.35 am	Welcome Remarks – Dr Dipayan Dey, Chair, South Asian Forum for Environment [SAFE]
9.35 am – 9.42 am	Address of the Chief Guest - US Consul General Helen La Fave, US Consulate, Kolkata
9.42 am – 9.47 am	Address of the Guest of Honor - Justice B P Singh, Formerly Judge, Supreme Court of India
9.47 am – 10.00 am	Inaugural Lecture on “Framing the Economics of Climate Change and Mega Cities” – Dr Govind Hariharan, Kennesaw State University USA
10.00 am – 10.15 am	Keynote Address – Representative from C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, Bangalore, India
10.15 am – 10.30 am	Speech on - “Air pollution and its health and climate co-benefits”: Mr. Samuel Kotis - Deputy Minister Counselor (Energy, Environment, Climate, Science), US Embassy, New Delhi
10.30 am – 10.45 am	Question session
10.45 am – 11.00 am	Tea Break
11.00 am – 01.30 pm	Technical Session: I (Kolkata, Patna, Guwahati)
01.30 pm – 02.30 pm	Lunch Break
2.30 pm – 4.00 pm	Technical Session: II (Kolkata, Patna, Guwahati)
4.00 pm – 4.45 pm	Concluding Session
05.00 pm	Closing with High Tea

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