



## **CENTRE FOR AIR POLLUTION STUDIES (CAPS)**

### **The Launch**

15 April, 2019

Concept Note and Agenda

MacArthur  
Foundation

Bloomberg  
Philanthropies



## **Background:**

Deteriorating urban air quality is a matter of serious concern in the most Indian and South Asian cities. A recent WHO report indicates that 14 out of the world's most 20 polluted cities are in India. In 2018, outdoor and household air pollution have led to over 7.1 million and 7.8 million premature deaths worldwide respectively.

Managing air quality levels across cities has emerged as a complex task, and the governments are seeking credible scientific studies to create meaningful policy options to mitigate air pollution. In order to address this, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has recently launched the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP). NCAP recommends detailed studies in several cities to identify pollution sources and the extent of their contribution.

An effective action plan on air pollution problem requires combination of science-based knowledge, techno-economic and policy assessment along with outreach and advocacy. There are a few Indian institutions which work in the domain of air pollution; however, only few have integrated expertise in the above-mentioned aspects. These institutions either work in one specific section of air pollution or are overloaded with the growing demand. Hence, there is a need to establish such centres in our country which can look into all the aspects of air pollution and help provide time-bound initiatives for effective policymaking.

## **Objective:**

CSTEP has established the **Centre for Air Pollution Studies (CAPS)** with the mission "to provide scientific, high-quality policy advice for improving air quality in India and the South Asian region". CAPS will build capacity in order to conduct scientific studies in air pollution and provide the necessary scientific inputs to help policymakers create effective and implementable strategies for informed policymaking.

CAPS will conduct studies under three verticals:

### **1) Measurement and Monitoring**

Objective: Understanding air quality measurement and monitoring system

### **2) Modelling and Analysis**

Objective: Developing computational models and forecasting capabilities

### **3) Policy Analyses and Outreach**

Objective: Developing capabilities for policy assessment studies, assessing health impact due to pollution and to establish a platform for data dissemination.

With CAPS, CSTEP hopes to conduct the above activities within various cities in India and the South Asian region and provide effective, efficient measures to manage air quality.

CAPS aims to—

1. Develop scientific knowledge base for solving policy issues related to air pollution
2. Share knowledge and best practices with citizen groups to mitigate air pollution
3. Build cooperation and partnership among researchers and practitioners as well as networking on the issue of air pollution.

### Target Groups and Participants:

The event is open to stakeholders, practitioners, and citizen groups involved in the field of air pollution.

### Agenda:

#### Launch – Centre for Air Pollution Studies (CAPS)

Sl. No	Time	Session Particulars	Speakers/Presenters
1	09:30 am- 10:00 am	<b>Registration &amp; Tea</b>	
<b>Objective:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Background setting on air pollution</li> <li>• Centre on air pollution - Objectives and work plan for CAPS</li> <li>• Future strategies</li> </ul>			
<b>SESSION I - LAUNCH OF THE CENTRE</b>			
2	10:00 am- 10:05 am	Welcome note	Dr Anshu Bharadwaj, Executive Director, CSTEP
3	10:05 am- 10:15 am	CAPS plan	Dr Pratima Singh, Research Scientist, CSTEP
4	10:15 am- 10:20 am	Need for centre on air pollution and its relevance	Ms Rhea Cordeiro, Consultant-Climate Change, MacArthur Foundation
5	10:20 am- 10:30 am	Air pollution and policy issues in India	Mr Ritesh Kumar Singh, Joint Secretary, MoEFCC
6	10:30 am- 10:35 am	Keynote address on India's approach and gaps towards mitigating air pollution	Dr Ajay Mathur, Director General, TERI
7	10:35 am- 11:00 am	CAPS website launch and Q&A session	Delegates
<b>TEA</b>			

<b>SESSION II – ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION</b>			
<b>Objective:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measurement and monitoring</li> <li>• Modelling studies</li> <li>• Policy engagement</li> </ul>			
8	11:15 am- 11:20 am	Moderator	Dr Jai Asundi, Research Coordinator, CSTEP
9	11:20 am- 11:35 am	Data gaps and evidence generation - Importance	Prof. SN Tripathi, IIT-Kanpur
10	11:35 am- 11:50 am	Communication and community engagement for developing strategies	Ms Priya Shankar, Bloomberg Philanthropies
11	11:50 am- 12:05 pm	India's roadmap for curbing air pollution - Donor's perspective	Mr Krishan Dhawan, CEO, Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation
12	12:05 pm- 12:25 pm	Moderator's summary and Q&A Session	
13	12:25 pm- 12:30 pm	Vote of thanks	Dr Anshu Bharadwaj, Executive Director, CSTEP
14	12:30 pm	<b>LUNCH</b>	

**Event Venue:**

Yantra, The Park,  
15, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

**Language of the Event:** English

**Event Registration:** The event is open to the public

**Supporters:**



MacArthur  
Foundation



Bloomberg  
Philanthropies



**SHAKTI**  
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY  
FOUNDATION

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