



Invitation Letter

Subject: Organizing a webinar on ‘Valuing wetland ecosystem services in the context of socio-economic well-being for marginal poor’, on the eve of World Wetlands Day 2nd February 2024 (2-4 pm IST)

Dear Sir/ Madam,

We are privileged to modestly introduce before your esteemed office ‘Progyan Foundation for Research and Innovation (PFRI)’ an independent policy science research Kolkata-based nonprofit organization working towards four dimensions viz. 1. Climate policy research 2. Conservation of natural habitat, biodiversity, and socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes 3. Research on livelihood sustainability 4. Circular economy and green energy to sustain environmental, social, economic development and poverty alleviation. It is the research organ of ‘South Asian Forum for Environment (SAFE)’ a civil society organization, working towards achieving SDGs at the grassroots with the community and stakeholders in India and other South Asian countries as well. SAFE is recognized by the M/o Environment Forest & Climate Change and M/o NRE, Govt of India and accredited by ‘NGO darpan’ of Niti Ayog. It also enjoys consultative status with the UN Environment, UNFCCC, UNDP, World Bank and ECOSOC.

Celebrated annually on 2nd February, World Wetlands Day aims to raise global awareness about the vital role of wetlands for people and the planet. The Day also marks the date of the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands on 2 February 1971, in the Iranian city of Ramsar on the shores of the Caspian Sea. World Wetland Day 2024 will focus on the theme of ‘Wetlands and Human Wellbeing’. The theme recognizes wetlands as critical to people and nature, underscoring the intrinsic value of wetland ecosystems and their benefits and services, including contributions to sustainable development and human wellbeing.

On this eve, PFRI is organizing multiple events viz.

1. *‘Assessing the ecosystem services of non-Ramsar sites: A case study of ‘Bortir Bill’, a vast wetland surrounded by farmlands in the 24 North Parganas district of West Bengal, India*
2. *Awareness campaign on wetland conservation with the climate-vulnerable communities of Indian Sundarban*
3. *A webinar on ‘Valuing wetland ecosystem services in the context of socio-economic well-being for marginal poor’.*

This webinar aims to underscore the crucial relationship between wetlands and the overarching well-being of humanity. Therefore, I would like to request you to kindly participate in this webinar as a **Panelist** on 2nd February 2024 from 2-4 pm (IST). As a part of this end, the webinar would entail sharing our experiences and innovation, followed by a panel discussion with eminent persona having experiences in the concerned areas of intervention, as well as a brainstorming session on the economic valuation of the goods and services of our precious wetlands.

Your august presence is highly solicited. Please drop a line of confirmation and for further queries message/ WhatsApp me (91 8240031767). Thank you very much for your active cooperation. Looking forward to meeting you in the webinar.

Please visit us at **progyanfoundation.org** for more details on our profile.

Best Regards

Malancha Dey



Tentative Agenda of Webinar ‘Valuing wetland ecosystem services in the context of socio-economic well-being for marginal poor’ on World Wetland Day 2024

Date: 2nd February 2024; **Time:** 2 pm to 4 pm IST

Venue: Online, Google Meet platform; **Link:** <https://meet.google.com/zkn-ezrv-usx>

Event	Name	Organization	Time
Opening speech	Dr. Malancha Dey	Director, PFRI	2 – 2.10 pm
Keynote speech	Dr. Dipayan Dey	Director, PFRI	2 – 2.30 pm
Panel discussion	Distinguished guests		2.30 - 3.30 pm
Brainstorming session	All participants		3.30 – 4 pm
Vote of thanks	Dr. Malancha Dey	Director, PFRI	4 pm