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## **Invitation to attend the Achutha Menon Centre Webinar Series**

We are pleased to invite you to attend the AMC webinar by:

**Dr. Balakrishna Pisupati**

**United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**

on the topic:

**“Ecosystem restoration – for health, for life...”**

**On 4th June 2021,**

**12.00PM to 1.00 PM**

**The session will be moderated by Prof. A Bijukumar, Dean, Faculty of Science, University of Kerala**

Meeting link:

<https://zoom.us/j/91631283691?pwd=UEUrcGlPdmFCZlZCcVlxYkhHTFNsdz09>

Meeting ID: 916 3128 3691

Pass code: 329379

A short bio of the speaker and the topic is appended. We look forward to your participation in this webinar.

Yours sincerely

Dr SankaraSarma  
Professor and head  
AMCHSS, SCTIMST

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## About the speaker- Dr Balakrishna Pisupati



Dr. Balakrishna Pisupati is an internationally renowned conservation and development specialist with close to three decades of experience working at national, regional and international levels, holding positions such as the Chairperson of FLEDGE, an international think tank, Vice-Chancellor, TransDisciplinary University (TDU, India), Chief of Biodiversity, Land Law and Governance programmes at United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP, Kenya), Senior Policy Fellow at Fridtjof Nansen Institute (FNI, Norway), Chairman, National Biodiversity Authority-Government of India (NBA, India), Coordinator, Biodiplomacy Programme at United Nations University (UNU-IAS, Japan), Head, Regional Biodiversity Programme for Asia at the World Conservation Union (IUCN, Sri Lanka), Head, Biodiversity and Biotechnology programme at the M S Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF, India).

He is currently managing International Environmental Governance issues at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). He also is the Regional Vice Chair for South and Southeast Asia at IUCN Commission on Education and Communication, Global Chair for IUCN Specialist Group on Traditional Knowledge and Community Engagement.

He has advised more than 30 countries on conservation and development policy and served as advisor to international bodies such as China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development, China, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), World Bank, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and others.

## **Abstract of the webinar**

### **Ecosystem restoration – for health, for life.....**

As the global community is recovering from the devastating damages of the Covid-19 pandemic with positivity and resilience, it is awakening to some deeper truths that the pandemic has exposed. The crisis has starkly revealed the perils of humankind's dysfunctional relationship with the nature. Nature has been pushed to the edge in the ruthless human pursuit for economic growth and exploitation of finite planetary resources. The pandemic has underscored the existential threat for human survival on the planet from the pervasive ecosystem degradation and loss of biodiversity. It has revealed more than ever before, that the human health and life is inextricably linked to the animals, plants and the fragile ecosystems.

The United Nations has called it an “unprecedented wakeup call” for the humanity to take drastic actions before reaching a point of no return. We have reached a now-or-never juncture where ecosystem degradation has to be stopped, further damage prevented and our biodiversity restored... because human health and “our very survival hinges on it”

Keeping the gravity of the situation in mind, the Achutha Menon Centre for Health Science Studies, SCTIMST is happy to invite you to join us on a webinar on “Ecosystem restoration – for health, for life” in connection with the weeklong ‘World Environment Day 2021’ celebrations. This webinar aims to discuss the deep interconnectedness between the ecosystems and human health, the consequences of unsustainable development and ecological degradation and the benefits of ecosystem restoration as a vital contributor to sustain human health and life on this planet