Brief

The CITIIS program organised the first Urban Climate Film Festival on 24-26 March at Alliance Française, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi. The festival, held under U20 engagement events, showcased a curated selection of 11 films from 9 countries to create wider awareness of the impact of climate change on life in cities.

The inaugural session was chaired by G20 Sherpa Mr Amitabh Kant. Ms Richa Sharma, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change delivered the keynote address.

The films screened spanned topics like water conservation, clean energy, sustainable architecture, and protecting green cover and biodiversity. These films had been selected out of the 150 entries received through the global call for entries for the festival.

The screenings were complemented by engaging activities as well as a panel discussion with filmmakers Aparna Sanyal and Shaz Syed.

After the launch in Delhi, the festival will travel to Mumbai, Bengaluru, Kolkata, and Ahmedabad in subsequent months.

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**Agenda**

**AGENDA**

**Urban Climate Film Festival: Launch Ceremony**

Friday, 24th March, 2023

M.L. Bhartia Auditorium, Alliance Française, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi

<table>
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<th>TIME</th>
<th>AGENDA</th>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 pm – 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Lighting of the Ceremonial Lamp</td>
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<td>5:00 pm – 5:10 pm</td>
<td><strong>Welcome Note</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Sh Hitesh Vaidya</strong>, Director, NIUA</td>
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Sh Stéphane Amalir, Director, Alliance Française de Delhi

5:10 pm – 5:15 pm  
**Context Setting**

Sh Naim Keruwala, Program Director – CITIIS

5:15 pm – 5:30 pm  
**The Urban Climate Narrative – The India Story**

Smt Richa Sharma, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

5:30 pm – 6:00 pm  
**Inaugural Addresses**

Sh Franck Viault, Minister Counselor, the European Union to India

Sh Bruno Bosle, Country Director, AFD

6:00 pm – 6:15 pm  
**Address of the Chair**

Sh Amitabh Kant, G20 Sherpa, Government of India

6:15 pm – 6:30 pm  
Launch of the Festival Trailer by the Dignitaries

6:30 pm – 7:00 pm  
**Cultural Event**

7:00 onwards  
High Tea

**Quotes**

Address of the Chair: Mr Amitabh Kant

“Cities are centres of great creativity and growth. But urbanisation is also one of the biggest challenges where climate action is concerned. Cities account for almost 75% of the CO2 emissions in the world. Issues of water, waste, poverty and malnutrition are what common citizens are suffering from. We must make sure that the cities of the future that India creates are based on principles of sustainability. Filmmakers can bring out the challenges of climate change that the people of the world are confronted with, and leave a deep imprint on our minds and hearts. Thus, this film festival is the best way to announce our commitments and bring new energy for driving a new model of urbanisation.”

Mr Amitabh Kant  
G20 Sherpa, Government of India
Keynote Address: Ms Richa Sharma

“The Urban Climate Film Festival is being organised at a time when the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has presented its most comprehensive testament on the science of climate change, and also when India holds the presidency of the G20. Therefore, this is an opportune moment to amplify the climate challenge across sectors. We need to communicate on the multiple dimensions of the climate challenge: the sources of emissions, the solutions, the role of lifestyles, and how to shape our development choices for a better future. I’m sure the Urban Climate Film Festival will play a great role in spreading the message of urban climate action far and wide.”

Ms Richa Sharma
Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Welcome Note: Mr Hitesh Vaidya

“Climate change is one of the biggest challenges that urban areas are facing today. To combat it, there is a need to “de-jargonise” to decarbonise. The language of climate action has to become the language of cities. If pictures speak a thousand words, films speak a million words. And that is why a film festival is great for talking to a young generation and everyone else.”

Mr Hitesh Vaidya
Director, NIUA

Screening Schedule