

Canada

Presents

BHUTAN - CMS **vatavaran**

Festival and Forum

on

Climate Action & Biodiversity Conservation

November 02 – 07, 2022

A BRIEF REPORT

Environmental
Water
Pollution
Health
Lake
Region
Glaciers
Protection
Greater Himalayan
Climate Change
Education
Agriculture
Forestry
Floods
Air
Solid Waste Management
Global Warming
Temperatures
Farms
Himalayas
Human
Development
Preserve
Land
Reduce
Villages
Consumption
Hydropower
Rivers



www.cmsvatavaran.org



Contents

	Page
Introduction	1
Festival in Thimphu	3
Inaugural Ceremony	3
Bhutan CMS VATAVARAN Green Ambassador Award	6
Inaugural Film	8
Panel Discussions	8
Media Seminar on Communicating Conservation	11
Film Screening	12
Green Film Making Workshop	12
PSA and Short Film Competition	14
Closing Ceremony	14
Festival in Paro:	16
Inaugural Ceremony	16
Inaugural Film	18
Film Screening Session	18
Impact Filmmaking Master Class	18
Felicitation ceremony	19
Social Media Coverage	20
Media Coverage	21

Introduction

Bhutan, “Land of The Thunder Dragon” is located in South Asia and is landlocked between India, China and Nepal is the only Carbon Negative country in the world that sits on the southern slope of the Himalayas and is known for its serene natural environment and pure air quality. It is said that Bhutan has one of the most stable ecosystems in the world and has virtually no environmental damage. The restrictions on tourism and their protection of natural resources have let Bhutan preserve the beautiful landscape and physical country as well as their cultural identity.

For the people of Bhutan, Mountains are sacred and forests are important for the country. Bhutan is a Global Biodiversity hotspot that constitutes rich biodiversity with endangered wildlife species. It has rich mountain ecosystems and a natural diverse environment. Conservation of the environment is one of the pillars of their happiness index.

Climate change has become a cliché of our generation. The phenomenon is impacting not just a country but the whole human civilisation. Governments and authorities lack adequate commitments and resources to avert a possible disaster of our generation that climate change may be bringing.

The Himalayas is a serious victim of climate change. The consequences of the change will be the hardest for the people there. Residents downstream will be no less affected. Melting ice and decreasing ice reserves indicate a disastrous future for those who rely on the Himalayas for water sources. The Himalayas is also the source of life for millions. Impacts are already visible in the form of flash floods, GLOF and unpredictable monsoons.

Results are declining agricultural production, scarcity of water resources and deterioration of human health. Growing vehicular pollution, tourism and mega hydropower dams are some of the internal factors raising alarms in the Himalayas. Moreover, human activities in the vicinity of Bhutan not within its control are bigger influencers of climate change.

This could also be disastrous for Bhutan as it is characterized by substantial variations in climate conditions due to changes in topography and altitude over a smaller area. Ironically Bhutan’s status as a negative carbon emitter does not make it immune to the impacts of climate change. Its location in the Himalayas renders it more vulnerable to climate change.

Education and training are needed for the younger generation on climate change. It is important to understand that changes in biodiversity and ecosystem functioning could lead to changes in critical goods and services upon which human societies rely. In general, there is poor or no understanding of the impacts of climate change on biodiversity at all levels. This can be attributed to the lack of information and limited outreach since climate change as a real threat has emerged.

Centre for Media Studies (CMS) has been involved multifariously in policy research and programme evaluation aimed at creating sustainable solutions for environmental protection, climate change and biodiversity conservation. CMS VATAVARAN is India's premier film festival on wildlife and the environment, CMS VATAVARAN is also an initiative of the eclectic CMS Environment team.

For the last few years it is trying to trigger sustained interest in climate change, sustainability and livelihood issues among the youth, civil society, journalists, editors and media houses in the region. It is also trying to encourage environment films and forums resulting in a change in perception, practice and policy using the films as a tool and catalyst for creating impact.

To achieve the above and to facilitate youth participation in planning, policy and action in conserving the rich natural resources and environmental heritage of the Greater Himalayan Region in general and Bhutan in particular, from 2nd to 7th November 2022, CMS VATAVARAN in collaboration with the Canadian High Commission of India and Bhutan, along with IUCN CEC, Royal Thimphu College (RTC), Thimphu and Norbuling Rigter College (NRC), Paro organised Bhutan's first-ever festival and forum on Climate Action and Biodiversity Conservation.

It had a series of several interesting programs which covered film screenings, seminars, workshops, Panel discussions, etc. focusing on the environmental, social and economic aspects of Climate-Change and Biodiversity Conservation in the Greater Himalayan Region. The festival and forum were organised in two different venues i.e. Royal Thimphu College (RTC) Thimphu from 2nd to 4th November and at the Norbuling Rigter College (NRC) Paro on 7th November.

The program began with an inaugural ceremony presided over by **H.E. Dorji Wangdi**, Opposition Leader of the Royal Government of Bhutan and followed by a series of panel discussions, film screenings, seminars, green filmmaking workshops and master classes and short film competitions. Several eminent speakers i.e. **Mr Sean Southey** (Chair for the Commission on Education and Communication (IUCN-CEC) at the International Union for Conservation of Nature), **Mr Colin Shonk** (Counsellor and Head, of the Advocacy Program, Embassy of Canada), **Mr Tshewang Tandin** (President, Royal Thimphu College), **Dr P N Vasanti Rao** (DG, CMS), **Mr Dorji Dorji** (Acting Chief Program Officer, Bhutan Trust Fund for Environmental Conservation), **Dr Shiva Raj Bhattarai**, Dean (Academics), Royal Thimphu College, **Mr Sabyesachi Bharti** (Deputy Director, CMS VATAVARAN) and **Mr Rakesh Rao**, Sr. Environmental, Science and Conservation Filmmaker from India participated in it.

The festival also screened a total of 25 national and international awarded winning films from different parts of the world on various relevant environmental issues like climate change & adaptation and mitigation, wildlife conservation, water conservation, forest conservation and sustainable livelihood.

Festival in Thimphu

Venue: Royal Thimphu College, Thimphu

Date: 2nd to 4 November 2022

The festival was divided into two parts/locations. It started at the Royal Thimphu College, Thimphu with the inaugural ceremony on 2nd November 2022 followed by various programs and ended on 7th November 2022 with the valedictory and prize distribution ceremony.

Inaugural Ceremony

The festival started with the registration process. More than 500 people registered and participated in the inaugural ceremony. The inaugural ceremony was presided over by **H.E. Dorji Wangdi, Opposition Leader of the Royal Government of Bhutan** as the Chief Guest. Along with him **Mr Colin Shonk (Counsellor and Head, of the Advocacy Program, Embassy of Canada)**, **Mr Tshewang Tandin (President, Royal Thimphu College)** and **Dr P N Vasanti Rao (DG CMS)** graced the occasion.



The festival began with a Marchang ceremony in presence of all the eminent dignitaries and their felicitations during the occasion. In the Bhutanese culture, the Marchang {also refers to 'chaang' with 'mar' (Alcohol with butter)} offering is made to launch an auspicious event, mark an important occasion or receive an honoured guest.

After the Marchang ceremony, in his welcome address, **Mr Tshewang Tandin**, President of Royal Thimphu College welcome everyone present and expresses his pleasure in hosting this historic event in the college.

On this occasion in her introduction to the Festival and Forum **Dr Vasanti Rao**, DG, CMS said that since its inception, CMS VATAVARAN always tried not only to use the cinematic art of films but focuses more on using the films as a tool and catalyst for creating impact about the environment and biodiversity conservation. She further said that in a beautiful carbon-neutral country in the Himalayas, Bhutan, climate change is not just an environmental problem but a serious challenge to sustainable development and by organizing festivals and forums like these, we can connect these local changes to larger global trends and discourse, and also introspect/discuss what we all collectively can do to conserve.

In his Inaugural Keynote address, **Mr Colin Shonk** (Counsellor and Head, of the Advocacy Program, Embassy of Canada) expressed Canada's commitment to fighting Climate Change. He further said that his country is delighted to present the first-ever Climate Action and Biodiversity Festival in Bhutan and this unique initiative will boost Canada and Bhutan's shared commitment to the preservation of the environment and youth empowerment. Elaborating further he said that the Festival will further strengthen the long-standing ties between both our countries.

In his address, the Chief Guest of the ceremony, **H.E. Dorji Wangdi**, Opposition Leader of the Royal Government of Bhutan expressed the significance of these forums, discussions and programs. He further said Bhutan always works for an inclusive, equitable and balanced approach to economic development that promotes environmental sustainability which is a role model to the rest of the world. He further expressed the importance of such forums and festivals and said that these engagements will inspire the youth of Bhutan and help them to align their lives according to the Gross National Happiness and enable them to champion biodiversity conservation and climate action to communities around the world.





Bhutan CMS VATAVARAN Green Ambassador Award

During the inaugural ceremony, the much coveted “Bhutan CMS VATAVARAN Green Ambassador Awards” was given to two prominent Bhutanese environmentalists Dr Rebecca Pradhan, senior ecologist and botanist at the Royal Society for Protection of Nature Bhutan and Dr Nawang Norbu, Executive Director (Vice-President) of Bhutan Ecological Society for their contribution in the field of Biodiversity Conservation in Bhutan.

Dr Rebecca Pradhan,

Senior botanist at Royal Society for Protection of Nature, Bhutan.

Dr Rebecca, 69, is a senior ecologist and botanist at the Royal Society for Protection of Nature and a pioneer in the field of environment conservation in Bhutan. Fueled by an early interest in nature, she started her conservation career with the Royal Government of Bhutan. She served as the Head of the Herbarium and Forestry Research Library of the Department of Forests and Park Services from 1985 till 1999. She joined RSPN in 2000 when she started contributing immensely to the growth of RSPN. One of her most outstanding works has been in the field of conservation of the critically endangered White-bellied Heron (*Ardea insignis*) in Bhutan. Of the less than 60 confirmed global population of White-bellied Heron, 28 (population survey, 2016) are found in Bhutan. In her illustrious career, Rebecca also authored several publications. Some of her notable publications are “Wild Rhododendrons of Bhutan” and “Threatened Birds in Bhutan.”

Dr Rebecca Pradhan was honoured with the recognition as one of the ‘Hotspot Heroes’ by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) at the 6th IUCN World Conservation Congress on September 4, 2016. The honour of “Hotspot Heroes” was conferred to 15 conservationists from around the world during the celebration of the 15th anniversary of the CEPF at the Bishop Museum in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA. The ‘hotspot heroes’ were chosen from a pool of more than 2,000 civil society organizations that were the recipients of CEPF grants for the conservation of biodiversity hotspots across the globe since 2001.

Dr Nawang Norbu,

Executive Director (Vice-President) of Bhutan Ecological Society.

Dr Nawang Norbu (PhD) joined the Bhutan Ecological Society in 2017 after having served as Director of the Ugyen Wangchuck Institute for Conservation and Environment. He was the pioneer for the establishment of society while at the institute in 2010.

As a Director at the UWICE, he helped convene the Climate Summit for The Living Himalayas, a process that brought together civil society, academics and Government representatives from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal culminating in the signing of the agreement in November 2011 to adopt a framework action plan to adapt to climate change. He also initiated the establishment of the School for Field Studies (SFS) in Bhutan.

Before working at the institute, he also served as Park Manager for the Phrumsengla National Park where he led the drafting of a 5-year management plan for the park and also the adjoining biological corridor. Nawang received his PhD in Natural Sciences (Magna cum Laude) from the University of Konstanz and the International Max Planck Research School (Germany).



Inaugural Film

On this occasion, a beautiful short documentary film “**Mountain Man**” by a young Bhutanese Filmmaker **Mr Arun Bhattarai** was screened.

The film shows what it takes for a small nation to protect its communities from the impact of climate change. It brings the prayers and longing of an 11-year-old daughter whose father, a glaciologist, is in the snow-clad mountains studying the health of glaciers in Bhutan.

Arun Bhattarai is a freelance film director and producer from Thimphu, Bhutan. His first feature-length documentary *The Next Guardian* premiered at the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA) in 2017. It has since been screened at major festivals, had theatrical releases and broadcasted around the world.

The Inaugural Ceremony came to an end with a vote of thanks followed by a high tea.

Panel Discussions

During the festival, a total of four-panel discussions were organised on various environmental issues.

Day One: 2nd November 2022

First Panel Discussion was conducted on 2nd November on the issue of “Climate Change challenges to sustainable agriculture, tourism, biodiversity and natural resources conservation in Bhutan”. The discussion was moderated by **Dr Vasanti Rao**, DG, CMS. This Panel comprised several eminent speakers;

- **Mr Sean Southey** (IUCN- CEC, Chair) Canada
- **Mr Karma Tshering** (Chief Policy and Planning Division, MOAF) Bhutan
- **Mr Dorji Dorji** (Acting Chief Programme officer, BTFE), Bhutan
- **Dr Shivaraj Bhattarai** (Dean, Academic Affairs, Royal Thimphu College) Bhutan
- **Mr Namgyel Wangdi** (Senior Program Officer, Bhutan Ecological Society) Bhutan



The panel above discussed several points -

- Impact of climate change on GHR
- Vulnerability of Bhutan's biodiversity to the impacts of climate change.
- World's learnings from conservation efforts of Bhutan. Also the adaptation needs and priorities in Bhutan
- The GNH philosophy and the challenge of sustainable development
- Bhutan's role in climate diplomacy and how it can influence the global narrative on CC
- Environmental education and advocacy among youth initiatives and outcomes
- Emergency preparedness and disaster prevention measures

The rest of the three Panel Discussions were part of the thematic film screenings on day two and day three of the Thimphu Festival, where the distinguished panel members talked about the issues of Climate Change, Wildlife Conservation and Water Conservation in Bhutan in particular. Each of the discussions was comprised of two very eminent local experts on the subject.

Day Two: 3rd November 2022

Panel Discussions on three sessions as part of the thematic film screenings on Climate Change, Wildlife Conservation and Water Conservation were conducted respectively.

The Panel on the issue of Climate Change:

- **Mr Suraj Bhattarai**, Filmmaker
- **Mr G P Sharma**, Associate Professor, Environmental Studies, RTC.

The panel discussed the effects of climate change in real time at the global and national levels. They also discussed the factors of carbon emission. Impacts of climate change on agriculture and role of youth and climate change in impacts and mitigation.

In this discussion, Mr G P Sharma said – “The mountainous Kingdom of Bhutan lives under the constant threat of climate change. People are witnessing the changes around them almost in real time. The effects of global warming and carbon emissions are impacting the natural resources of Bhutan. The world's major carbon emitters should also take responsibility for turning the tide on climate change. People in Bhutan and in other nations if taking significant steps together will create a huge impact.

The Panel on the issue of Wildlife Conservation:

- **Mr Yeshey Dorji**, Wildlife Photographer.
- **Mr Indra Prashad Acharya**, Chief of the Species Conservation, Royal Society for Protection of Nature (RSPN).

The panel addressed the status of biodiversity and wildlife in Bhutan. The issues that the wildlife in Bhutan are currently facing most of which is due to climate change, habitat loss and degradation. Also, several points were discussed regarding the conservation and action plan of Bhutan.

Day Three: 4th November 2022

The Panel on the issue of Water Conservation:

- **Mr Nithil Dennis**, Programme Leader, Mass Communication, RTC.
- **Mr Kinley Dorji**, Programme Leader, Environmental Management, RTC.

Panel discussion on water conservation was conducted lastly with the panellists where water conservation strategies locally and at the national level in Bhutan were discussed. The importance of water conservation for the economy as its contribution to hydropower and initiatives taken in Bhutan were also addressed.

The panellists individually addressed all the participants and discussed the issues. They were honoured with Khadars and Mementos.



Media Seminar on Communicating Conservation

A Media Seminar on Communicating Conservation by **Mr Sean Southey** (Chair of IUCN Commission on Education and Communication) and **Dr Vasanti Rao** (DG, CMS) was conducted on the day first of the Thimphu festival.

In this seminar, both experts talked about how one can shape the narrative on conservation and create emotional connections between people and nature. Their presentation “Turning Up the Volume on Conservation” was based on their vast experience and they used live examples to demonstrate the key 7 principles of communicating for conservation. The seminar was followed by a discussion and Question Answers Session. More than 150 people participated in this unique seminar.



Film Screening

The festival continued for the next two days in Thimphu i.e. on 3rd November and 4th November, from 10:00 AM to 5:30 PM at the auditorium of RTC, Thimphu with the screening of 14 awarded/nominated CMS VATAVARAN environmental films on environmental issues like water conservation, wildlife conservation, climate change, forest conservation and sustainable livelihood along with Green Film making workshop.

Green Film Making Workshop

Films and Photographs engage us visually and emotionally. By incorporating Environment and climate change-related themes into films, it has the potential to open up a new dimension to scientific ideas, and interests, and at the same time inspire the audience to further engage in a broader discussion of the issue itself. Utilizing Photographs & Film as a medium to communicate climate change issues, can be a powerful tool to convey concepts and facts about science to an audience of a large number. This medium engages the masses by simplifying the concepts of science, technology, and environment-related issues. In today's social media (YouTube, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter) savvy world, short videos and photo stories can decimate information in an extremely productive way.

Understanding the importance of Environment and climate change-related films and documentaries, a three-day workshop on Green Filmmaking was conducted from 2nd to 4th November 2022 at Royal Thimphu College, Bhutan as a part of Bhutan's first-ever Environment film festival and forum on Climate Action and Biodiversity conservation.

The primary objective of the workshop was to introduce and train the participants in the art of environment filmmaking, and also give them a holistic experience of producing an environment film. Environment Photography and Film making is a niche today and this workshop is intended to expose and motivate the participants in this exciting and extremely challenging field.

The Workshop was attended by around 35 participants mainly from the Mass Communication and Environment Science background. The workshop also so active participation from the Local Media organisation and also the RTC faculty. Several sessions on Ideating and finding inspiration for Environment films, Research, Scripting, Cinematography, Sound, editing etc. as part of Pre-Production, Production and Post Production, were introduced.

At the end of the workshop, the participants were divided into groups and each group was asked to produce their first "180-sec Impact film" come up with an environment film concept, write a script, shoot the film, and edit the film. In all, 8 very inspiring and well-documented films were submitted of which 3 bests films were selected for awards.

The workshop was conducted by Mr Rakesh Rao, a Science and Environmental Filmmaker. He is a Photographer/ Filmmaker and a Science enthusiast who specializes in documenting Scientific Expeditions and Research activities. He has been involved in several projects and his work has taken him to all three Cryospheric polar regions (the Arctic, Antarctic and the Himalayas) making him amongst the few documentary filmmakers to do so. His recent film "The Climate Challenge" won the

Best Film award under “Climate Change section in the 11th CMS VATAVARAN Festival, Best Science Film award at the International Science Film Festival of India and the also received the Golden Beaver Award at the 10th National Science Film Festival of India.

He produced the official teaser of Chandrayaan-2 for the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). Having spent 14 months over a span of 3 years in the icy continent of Antarctica to document the construction of the third Indian Scientific Station ‘BHARATI’ at Larsemann hill, Antarctica, He was also part of the 10th Indian Southern Ocean expedition that was involved in documenting the scientific activity undertaken in the Indian sector of the Southern Ocean. He also developed a documentary film following the scientists researching the high altitude glaciers in the Himalayas region and also as a part of the NASA Spaceward Bound India Expedition to high altitudes regions in Ladakh, Jammu & Kashmir.



PSA and Short Film Competition

During the festival, a Public Service Announcement(PSA) and Short Film Competition were also held where 17 PSA and 7 short films participated. The top 3 films from both sections were selected by a distinguished Jury panel comprising Mr Rakesh Rao (Award winner filmmaker), Ms Roseleen Gurung (Senior Program Officer at Tarayana Foundation) and Ms Jasvinder Kaur (Public Diplomacy and Communications Officer, High Commission of Canada in India). The winners were conferred with Certificates in the valedictory and award Ceremony.

SNO	CATEGORY	FILM TITLE	FILMMAKER
1.	Short Film (1st Prize)	Climate Change	Ramesh Subba
2.	Short Film (2nd prize)	Climate Action & Bio-Diversity Conservation	Tschenda Rigzin Wangdi
3.	Short Film (3rd prize)	The Bird Keeper	Tsheyang Tshogyal & Sonam Pelkid
4.	PSA - Public Service Announcement	1st Prize	Kuenga Zangpo & Tenzin Dorji
5.	PSA - Public Service Announcement	2nd Prize	Dorji Wangmo & Rik Lancelot Dijkman
6.	PSA - Public Service Announcement	3rd prize	Pema Dechen & Yoezer Lhamo
7.	Special Mention to two films		1. Ramesh Subba & Sonam Deki 2. Kuenzang Namgyel Dechen & Thinley Dema

Closing Ceremony

The Thimphu festival came to an end with a valedictory and award Ceremony. During the ceremony, the Festival report was submitted by Sabyesachi Bharti, DD, CMS VATAVARAN.

In the ceremony, participants from the Green Filmmaking workshop were awarded participation Certificates. Along with them, the top 3 short films and PSA films were also awarded “Certificates of Merit.”





Festival in Paro:

Venue: Norbuling Rigter College, Paro

Date: 7th November 2022

The Festival and forum continued in Bhutan with another location at Norbuling Rigter College, Paro on 7th November 2022. The festival in Paro screened several award-winner films on climate change, Water conservation, Wildlife Conservation and Climate adoption & mitigation. Apart from the film screenings on Master Class on Green Film Making was also organised during this one-day festival in Paro. Approximately 800 participants were present during the festival and master class.

Inaugural Ceremony

The festival started with the registration process. More than 500 people registered and participated in the inaugural ceremony. The inaugural ceremony was presided over by **H.E. Dasho Sonam P Wangdi**, Hon'ble Secretary, National Environment Commission of Bhutan as the Chief Guest. Along with him **Mr Colin Shonk** (Counsellor and Head, of the Advocacy Program, Embassy of Canada), **Mr Karma Drukpa** (Dean, Norbuling Rigter College, Paro) and **Mr Sabyesachi Bharti** (Deputy Director, CMS VATAVARAN) were present during the occasion.

The festival began with a Marchang ceremony in presence of all the eminent dignitaries and their felicitations during the occasion.

After the Marchang ceremony, in his welcome address, **Mr Karma Drukpa** (Dean, Norbuling Rigter College, Paro) welcome everyone present and expresses his pleasure in hosting this festival in the college. On this occasion, all the guests present on the stage along with the CMS team members were honoured with khadar and mementoes by **Mr Kunzang Drukpa** (Registrar, Norbuling Rigter College, Paro).

During his address to the festival and forum, **Mr Sabyesachi Bharti** (DD, CMS VATAVARAN) express his organisation's commitment towards making the complex environmental and climate problems easier to be understood by the common people and also to develop environmental leadership amongst the youth. He further expressed that CMS VATAVARAN always tried not only to use the cinematic art of films but focuses more on using the films as a tool and catalyst for creating an impact on the environment and biodiversity conservation.

In his Inaugural Keynote address, **Mr Colin Shonk** (Counsellor and Head, of the Advocacy Program, Embassy of Canada) expressed Canada's commitment to fighting Climate Change. In his speech, he also elaborated on how Canada contributes to Bhutan's development. He further said that the Festival will certainly strengthen the long-standing ties between both countries.

In his address, the Chief Guest of the ceremony, **H.E. Dasho Sonam P Wangdi**, Hon'ble Secretary of the National Environment Commission of Bhutan expressed the significance of these forums, discussions and programs. He further said that as a country Bhutan has committed to the 2050 Vision for LDCs to be on climate-resilient development pathways by 2030 and deliver net-zero emissions by 2050. Bhutan always works for an all-encompassing, impartial and balanced approach to development that promotes conservational sustainability which is now become a role model to the rest of the world.



Inaugural Film

On this occasion, a thought-provoking documentary film **“The Climate Challenge,”** by **Mr Rakesh Rao** has been screened as the opening film. The film highlights these climate issues by taking you on a journey documenting the daunting work of these scientists who are conducting research in the Arctic, Himalayas and the Southern Ocean.

The Inaugural Ceremony came to an end with a vote of thanks followed by a high tea.

Film Screening Session

After the Inauguration ceremony, a Film screening session was organised where the screening of the awarded-winning international films on various environmental issues like water conservation, wildlife conservation, climate change adoption & mitigation and sustainable livelihood was screened.



Impact Filmmaking Master Class

During the Paro festival, a half-day Impact Filmmaking Master Class was held by **Mr Rakesh Rao** on **“Documenting Science and Environment Issues - Pole to Pole”**. A total of twenty-five participants were present during the Master Class.

We are on the brink of a Climate Crisis. There is empirical evidence of changing climate across the planet. The worst affected regions that are facing the brunt of climate change are the Cryospheric regions of the world (Arctic, Antarctic and the Himalayas) including the Oceans. Concerns about climate change and its impact on land, the environment and mankind have been growing over recent years.

The master class has taken the participants on a virtual journey with the collection of photographs and videos by the mentor in documenting Scientists conducting research in the extreme climatic condition of the Arctic, Himalayas, Antarctic and Southern Ocean, and them experiencing some life-threatening situations, to get their scientific data to understand the impacts of climate change. The presentation highlighted how these events are interrelated to one another and their impact on the global scenario and also on Bhutan.

Felicitation ceremony

The festival ended with a closing ceremony where all the twenty-five participants of the Film Master Class were presented with the participation certificate.

A total of 850 people participated in the festival and forum in Paro.



Social Media Coverage

As Bhutan's media scene is very limited that's why the festival has been promoted heavily through various social media platforms i.e. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn. Due to the reach of Facebook as the main social media platform, several posts including festival promos were promoted through Facebook and its partner company Instagram and during the festival duration (30th October to 7th November 2022) it reached more than 133953 and 16154 people respectively.

Reach

Facebook Page reach ⓘ

133,953 ↑ 9.0K%



Instagram reach ⓘ

16,154 ↑ 3.1K%



Audience

Current audience

Potential audience

Facebook Page likes ⓘ

4,392

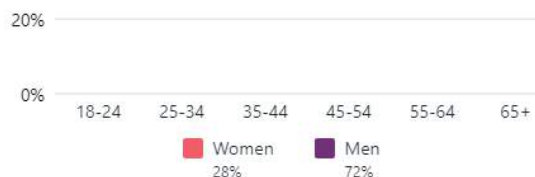
Age & gender ⓘ



Instagram followers ⓘ

1,229

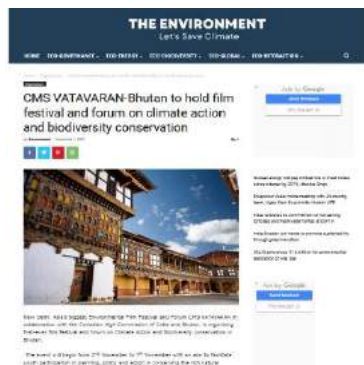
Age & gender ⓘ



Media Coverage

The Bhutan CMS VATAVARAN Festival and Forum 2022, was covered by newspaper dailies, local TV channels and social media sites. The festival had several media coverages. Newspaper dailies were present during the festival and covered the festival & its programmes. Among the prominent ones were the Bhutan Times and many more. A pre-inaugural talk was also aired on FM Radio.

1. The Environment



<https://www.theenvironment.in/2022/11/01/cms-vatavaran-bhutan-to-hold-film-festival-and-forum-on-climate-action-and-biodiversity-conservation/>

2. Bhutan Times



<https://bhautimes.bt/index.php/2022/10/31/bhutan-at-the-forefront-of-climate-action/>

3. Imphal Free Press



<https://www.ifp.co.in/movies/bhutan-hosts-first-film-festival-and-forum-on-climate-action-and-biodiversity-conservation>

4. BBS



<https://www.facebook.com/bhutanbroadcastingservice/videos/bbs-news-and-current-affairs-3112022-dzongkha-6pm-to-8pm-english-9pm-to-11pm/5555372534518298/>

5. BBS



<https://www.facebook.com/100053640092787/posts/pfbid02dCpseebyMvgVzaqsep1KXfPLboGYbHNPNdSxFtUNMBBTTd9HNxgRzmk17Un21K9l/?d=n>

6. BBS



<http://www.bbs.bt/news/?p=176896>

7. Kuensel



<https://kuenselonline.com/film-festival-on-environment/>

8. Kuensel



Chhimi Dema

The documentary "Mountain Man" shows what it takes for a small nation to protect its communities from the impact of climate change.

It brings the prayers and longing of an 11-year old daughter whose father, a glaciologist, is in the snow-clad mountains studying the health of glaciers in Bhutan.

Arun Bhattarai's "Mountain Man" was screened on November 12 at the world's largest documentary film festival in Amsterdam.

<https://kuenselonline.com/bhutanese-climate-heros-story-shows-on-a-mega-film-festival/>

9. Kuensel

Q&A

Education has great potential for people-to-people exchange

Counsellor and head of the advocacy programme at the Embassy of Canada to Bhutan based in New Delhi, Colin Shonk talks to Reporter Chhimi Dema about Canada-Bhutan affairs. Excerpts.



KUENSEL
Nov 5, 2022

Counsellor and head of the advocacy programme at the Embassy of Canada to Bhutan based in New Delhi, Colin Shonk talks to Reporter Chhimi Dema about Canada-Bhutan affairs. Excerpts.

What brings you to Thimphu?

The reason that we are here today is that we partnered with Royal Thimphu College and a couple of international organisations, one based in India, and the International Union for Conservation of Nature to host a film festival and a forum on combating climate change.

Bhutan is a great example of a country that has put in place progressive policies on climate and environment and especially

<https://kuenselonline.com/education-has-great-potential-for-people-to-people-exchange/>

10. Great Telangaana



Ads by Google

Stop seeing this ad

HOME TOP STORIES POLITICAL CINEMA REVIEWS HEALTH SPORTS SPECIALS

Home > Cinema

Asia's biggest Environmental Film Festival

October 31, 2022 6:53 PM 358

f t p w i



Asia's biggest Environmental Film Festival and Forum CMS VATAVARAN in collaboration with

<https://greattelangaana.com/english/asias-biggest-environmental-film-festival/>