

SINCE 2002



Two Decade Long Journey (2002 – 22)



CONTENTS

Our Reach 2002-22	2
Message from Chairperson's Desk	4
Director's Note	5
CMS VATAVARAN – An Introduction	6
Twenty Glorious Years (2002-22)	10
Conservation through Films and Environment Forums	16
Awards	18
Creating Credible Platforms	22
Global Outreach	24
Policy Discourse and Impact	26
Capacity Building of Educational Centres	30
Sustained Media Engagement	34
Building Specialized Knowledge Networks for Action	36
Eminent Associations	38
CMS VATAVARAN TEAM	45
CMS VATAVARAN – The Journey Forward	48

Our Reach 2002-22

(as on Dec 2022)



11

editions of
Film Competition
+ Film Festivals &
Thematic Forums



3500+

filmmakers
from **86 Countries**

4269

film entries to International
& National Film Competitions



10 editions of
travelling festivals
in **57 cities**

3000+

film screenings
across India

3500+

films archive on
environment & related
development issues

238000+

youth participation



2000+ Schools, Colleges
and **Universities** actively
participated in film screenings,
eco-tours to fragile ecosystems,
filmmaking workshop, eco-
games, puppet / comic making
workshops, panel discussions,
quizzes, competitions, etc.

30000+ packages of
'**Greening Young Minds...**'
distributed in schools as
curriculum resource.



1350+ Environment
Journalists from
230 National and
International **Media
Organisations**
participated in various
programme and
activities.



FOLLOW THE JOURNEY...



CMS VATAVARAN Awards

Selected by eminent Jury, in a transparent, three tiered process:

214 Awarded Films

59 Green Ambassadors

19 Young Environment Journalists

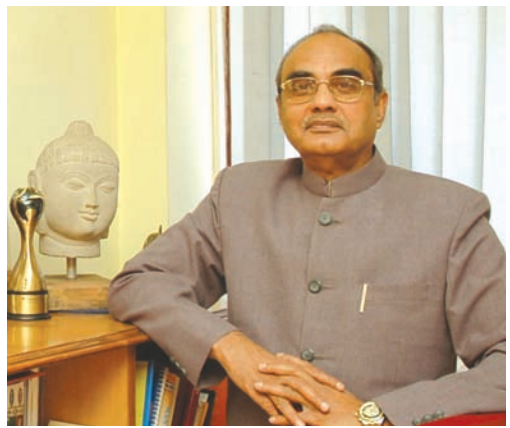
8 Prithvi Ratna

3 Prithvi Bhushan

3 Million+
reached across
Social Media,
OTT Platforms,
Online Screenings,
Webinars



From Chairperson's Desk



“Environment has become a nodal issue for everyone and it cut across all other issues. Issues like climate change and global warming are affecting each and every part of the world. Through CMS VATAVARAN several burning issues in our contemporary world pertaining to environment, wildlife, natural resources and health are highlighted and widely disseminated. I congratulate the CMS VATAVARAN team for their collective efforts in making this festival a success year after year.”

—Dr N Bhaskara Rao,
Chairman CMS

CMS VATAVARAN embodies an imaginative approach to delve into nature's realms and explore urgent environmental issues through the art of audiovisual storytelling. Our research has unveiled the potential of electronic media, particularly television and film, in shaping public attitudes and agendas. This festival provides an opportunity to harness this potential and unite as partners in the pursuit of preservation and conservation of our natural resources.

The festival takes immense pride in showcasing the finest Indian and international films centered around environmental issues and wildlife. Some of these films have garnered national and international acclaim, while others have played a pivotal role in influencing legislation, policy, and public perception.

The success of CMS VATAVARAN owes itself to the unwavering support of our partners, as well as the dedication and hard work of our exceptional team, who have positioned the festival as a premier initiative in this region.

I wholeheartedly welcome each and every one of you to join this movement, to nurture and safeguard our environment, and to contribute in your own unique way to creating a secure and enchanting world for future generations.

Dr N Bhaskara Rao, Chairman, CMS
E: nbrao@cmsindia.org

Director's Note

CMS VATAVARAN embarks on a new era...

As we celebrate two decades of tireless dedication, CMS VATAVARAN fills me with immense satisfaction for its remarkable accomplishments.

Through 11 editions of international competitive film festivals, 11 traveling film festivals that spanned 57 cities across 26 Indian states, and numerous workshops, seminars, and exhibitions, CMS VATAVARAN has left an indelible mark. Remarkably, we have showcased over 1000 newly produced films on locally and globally relevant environmental issues, directly reaching millions of citizens and making a significant impact on policy formulation.

This extraordinary progress would not have been possible without the unwavering support of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, the Royal Norwegian Embassy, distinguished Indian and foreign agencies, multilateral organizations, media, civil society organizations, concerned public, corporate sector, and the association of over 300 experts from across the country. The dedicated efforts of the CMS VATAVARAN team members over the past 20 years, along with the support of eminent personalities such as Shyam Benegal, Amol Palekar, and Adoor Gopalkrishnan, have played a pivotal role in our success.

CMS VATAVARAN has evolved into a national movement from its humble beginnings as an experiment. It has transcended being a short-term project and now focuses on sustaining, scaling up, and consolidating these remarkable achievements.

We eagerly welcome your suggestions and active participation in our ongoing endeavors.

Dr P N Vasanti, Festival Director
E: pnvasanti@cmsindia.org



“CMSVATAVARAN has been an exciting and satisfying journey! We started this in response to a need for showcasing environmental concerns using the medium of films. Now after more than two decades and it is so much more! It is a movement that excites and inspires various stakeholders; it is a safe space for critical discourse; it is a ground for upcoming film makers; it is a creative expression; it is a sharing and learning platform; most importantly it brings people from diverse walks of life together in a festival mode to inspire love and action for nature, for conservation.”

—**Dr P N Vasanti**,
Director General, Centre for Media Studies (CMS)

CMS VATAVARAN

– An Introduction

The rich experience of CMS in environmental issues and the urge to go 'Beyond Research' sowed the seeds of **CMS VATAVARAN – a pioneering international festival of environment and wildlife films**. Today, CMS VATAVARAN festival has become one of the most prestigious film festivals across the globe and has successfully positioned India as a vibrant destination for environment and wildlife filmmaking.

CMS VATAVARAN is an international Competitive Film Festival and Forum on Environment and Wildlife. CMS VATAVARAN is Asia's largest International Environment & Wildlife Film Festival and Forum. Based on extensive research, this festival (competitive and travelling) was initiated for encouraging environment films and forums that result in perception, practice and policy change. **Since its inception in 2002, it has organized 11 competitive and 10 travelling festivals in 57 cities of 26 Indian states.**

The festival acts as a catalyst in taking up multifaceted environmental issues through a single platform, share available knowledge, highlight the deep interconnectedness between sectors and issues, encourage critical thinking and help shift entrenched attitudes and practices. It is the only organisation which organizes competitive film festival and forum on environment issues of this scale and magnitude continuously from past twenty years.

It is today a recognized forum for multi stakeholder interactions and engagements, specially connecting together grass root organizations and activists with youth, policy makers and media.



“Embassy of Norway, once again, takes pride in being the Principal Partner of CMS VATAVARAN this year. It is due to Norway's commitment to environmental conservation and sustainable development that the Norwegian Embassy in India has been partnering with CMS for the last few years with their Film Festival initiative. We see the festival growing, not only in size but also in significance.”

— Her Excellency **Ms. Ann Ollestad**
Former Norwegian Ambassador

HARNESSING THE POWER OF FILMS AND FESTIVALS TO SPARK ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS



CMS VATAVARAN has now become a movement and inspired many organizations and individuals to use films and film festivals as a medium to catalyse change. Since its formation in 2002 it has reached to more than **5,00,000** people, directly and as a result, created a strong network of Indian and International filmmakers, policymakers, academicians, research think tanks, environmentalists, journalists, students of all streams, defence & paramilitary forces and nature enthusiasts.

A range of activities and initiatives are planned along with nominated **film screenings, inaugural ceremony, seminars, workshops, exhibitions**, etc. It also brings together **students and youth leaders through workshops and various competitions**. These forums and initiatives are organized in collaboration with eminent organisations including Government, bilateral organisations, PSUs, civil societies, corporate, media, etc.

In 2003, CMS VATAVARAN turned mobile. It began a **travelling festival**. The travelling festival was a response to urgent and repeated requests from participants and partners associated with the main competitive festival organized in New Delhi. They believed, rightly, that the festival's vast panorama was not being shared with people in other cities of the country. How could a veritable wealth of expertise and creative experiences not be shared?

So the first CMS VATAVARAN Environment & Wildlife Travelling Film Festival and Forum was organized in 2004 in Chennai. Since then **11 travelling festivals in 57 cities of 26 Indian states and 05 UTs have been organized till 2022**. This was possible only with overwhelming participation from the cities, the lavish support of state governments, local administrations, industries and organizations and unbound public enthusiasm.



“Films competing in the CMS VATAVARAN are of extremely high standards and the Jury had difficulty in selecting the winners. Initiatives like CMS VATAVARAN help environmental films find a regular place in the media's agenda and does a great deal for creating environment awareness.”

—Shri Shyam Benegal, Filmmaker & Recipient of Dadasaheb Phalke Award

CMSVATAVARAN HAS ORGANISED **11 COMPETITIVE** AND **10 TRAVELLING FESTIVALS**
IN **57 CITIES** OF **26 INDIAN STATES**



Twenty Glorious Years (2002-22)

2022: 11th CMS VATAVARAN International Film Festival and Forum was organized in **hybrid mode** for the very first time (April 11 to 23, 2022) on the theme **“Celebrating Biodiversity”**. **824 entries** were submitted to this competition from **61 countries** (international section) and 22 states in India (national section), where **more than 60,000** participants were registered. The nominated films were screened online exclusively on India Science, an Internet-based science Over The-Top (OTT) TV channel that has been watched by more than thirty-three thousand (33000) viewers around the globe.

The team also conducted the 10th Travelling Film Festival and Forum in Shimla, Bengaluru and Bhutan in this year. CMS VATAVARAN organised **Bhutan’s first-ever film festival and forum on Climate Action and Biodiversity conservation** at Royal Thimphu College (RTC) Thimphu from 2nd to 4th November and at the Norbuling Rigter College (NRC) Paro on 7th November’ 2022. Around 1000 students participated in the festival.

CMS VATAVARAN in collaboration with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH executed the **Project Her&Now** in three states of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi in India. The project focused on **‘Economic Empowerment of Women Entrepreneurs and Start-ups by Women (Her&Now)’** where more than 1400 people participated.

2021: 9th Traveling festival was organized in Leh, Uttarkashi, Keylong and Gangtok. This is being organised by SECURE HIMALAYA project of UNDP with support from the state Government & Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MOEFCC).

CMS VATAVARAN Festival Posters





“The efforts of CMS VATAVARAN are commendable. It has successfully organised this international film festival by bringing together films that talk about nature. We need to work together and take these films to the people to sensitise them for a lasting impact.”

–**Shri Prakash Javadekar**, Former Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
(In a video message, 2015)

2020: Online webinars, essay writing competition, quiz, painting competitions, short film competitions were organized among school and college students.

2019: 10th CMS VATAVARAN International Film Festival and Forum organised Competitive Festival at the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, Janpath New Delhi, India from **27 to 30 November, 2019** on the topic of **“Celebrating Himalayas”**. The attempt is to highlight the importance of the spectacular mountain ecosystem in the current climate change discourse and action under this theme. **Total 77 films (45 National & 32 International) were nominated in 09 categories. “Prithvi Bhushan”, “Young Environment Journalist Award” & “Green Ambassador Award”** were conferred in a gala award ceremony during the 4 days of festival.

2018: The 8th Travelling Festival was organized from March to October in Bangalore and in 4 Himalayan cities namely Darjeeling, Agartala, Srinagar and Nahan

2017: 9th CMS VATAVARAN International Film Festival and Forum organised Competitive Festival at Rajghat, New Delhi from **2nd to 6th November, 2017** on the topic of **“Conservation 4 water”**. It delved into the issues of climate change and water conservation under this theme. **Total 113 films (61 National & 52 International) were nominated in 13 categories. “Prithvi Ratna Award”, “Prithvi Bhushan”, “Young Environment Journalist Award” & “Green Ambassador Award”** were conferred in a gala award ceremony during the 5 days of festival.

2016: 7th Travelling Festival from **September to December 2016** of CMS VATAVARAN was dedicated to 7 large and small rivers of India- Brahmaputra (**Guwahati**), Mula-Mutha (**Pune**), Sabarmati (**Ahmedabad**), Ganga (**Allahabad**), Netravali (**Mangalore**), Cauvery (**Tiruchirappalli**), and Musi (**Hyderabad**). The festival was on the theme of **“Water for Life”**.

2015: 8th CMS VATAVARAN International Film Festival and Forum organized competitive Festival on the theme of “**Water for Life**” in the month of October. Total **74 films were nominated (51 Indian and 24 International)**. The “**Prithvi Bhushan**” award was introduced in this edition. Along with films and forums, tribal food festival also drew the attention.

2014: The 6th Travelling Festival of CMS VATAVARAN went to **Puducherry, Amritsar, Raipur, Gangtok and Agra** with film screenings, interactive sessions with youth, nature trails and felicitation of “**Green Ambassadors**” in all 5 cities.

2013: The 7th CMS VATAVARAN - Environment & Wildlife Film Festival and Forum organized Competitive Festival on the theme of “**Mainstreaming Biodiversity at Different Levels to Promote Living in Harmony with Nature**”. Total **86 films were nominated (52 Indian and 34 International)** in **11 categories**. Eminent Film-maker, Actor and producer- **Shri Amol Palekar** chaired the list of eminent jurists for the coveted 7th CMS VATAVARAN Indian Awards.

2012: CMS VATAVARAN travelled to **Dehradun, Goa, Hyderabad, Jaipur and Kolkata** with programmes built around the theme of biodiversity conservation. The festival and forum were held in **51 locations over 37 days**. There were **250 film screenings, 4 panel discussions, 3 green filmmaking workshops, 3 media roundtables, 3 eco-tours (theme: healing the forest), biodiversity quiz, biodiversity mapping and felicitation of 16 grassroots individuals**. It witnessed an overwhelming **participation of 47,736 people** from different sections of the society. Also, Hyderabad CMS VATAVARAN – Biodiversity Film Festival was organized for delegates of 11th Conference of the Parties (CoP-11) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).



“Every film talked about different issue. The selection committee has done a pretty good job in that way, where they have not repeated issues. Thanks to CMS VATAVARAN, I feel very educated. Having been in media, there are few issues that you don't know in depth, CMS VATAVARAN has changed the way that I look at certain things.”

—Ms. Revathy Menon,
Actor and Director, Chennai, Member Final Jury

CMS VATAVARAN Films Directories

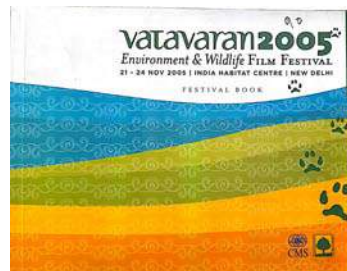


2011: The theme for the sixth edition of the CMS VATAVARAN - Competitive Film Festival was Biodiversity. The jury consisted of **37 members** who **nominated 68 films** (**51 Indian films** from **22 states** and **17 international films** from **27 countries**) from **317 entries** for the festival

2010: The fourth Travelling Festival visited eight cities (Ahmedabad, Bhubaneswar, Hyderabad, Patna, Port Blair, Shillong, Shimla, and Thiruvananthapuram) across India with film screenings at more than **70 venues** and **participation of more than 95,000 people**. For the first time "**Green Heroes**" were also felicitated.

2009: The 5th Competitive Film Festival attracted **366 entries** from **20 Indian states** and **23 foreign countries**. *Mr Jahnu Baruah*, Eminent director was the chairperson of the Award Jury.

2008: The 3rd Travelling Film Festival screened **304 films** over a span of **24 days** in **8 cities**. **6 National and 51 state partners** lent support and **around 80,000 people participated**. The festival went to **Leh, Lucknow, Bhopal, Ranchi, Pune, Hyderabad and Agartala**.



2007: The 4th Competitive festival drew **275** entries from **19 countries**. Awards for “**Technical Excellence**” and the “**Young Environmental journalist Award**” were initiated. Noted filmmaker *Mr Shyam Benegal* was the Jury Chairperson.

2006: The 2nd Travelling Film Festival went overseas to **Abu Dhabi** and **Sao Paulo** apart from visiting **Bangalore, Chandigarh, Chennai, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kashmir, Kolkata, Pune, Ranchi** and **Sirmour**.

2005: The 3rd Competitive Film Festival received **244** entries. The Steering Committee was chaired by *Dr Karan Singh* and the Award jury was headed by *Mr Shyam Benegal*.

2004: The 1st Film Festival went to **Chennai, Coimbatore** and **Mumbai**. People began recognising and supporting the CMS VATAVARAN environment awareness movement.

2003: The 2nd Competitive film Festival became biennial. CMS and UNEP instituted an award “**Prithvi Ratna**” for extraordinary contribution to wildlife film-making and natural history.

2002: India’s one and only Environment and Wildlife Film Festival- CMS VATAVARAN- began its maiden run. The initiative was supported by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, GOI.



“I have been honoured to both support and be a part of CMS VATAVARAN festivals in India and Bhutan. I have watched the eyes of children mesmerized by sights they have never seen. I have heard rigorous discussions between experts and community members. I have been impressed by videos produced by young students in mere days. I have seen politicians make commitments, panels discuss critical issues, and rooms of local participants learn about the challenges facing their environment, and what they can do to help. Always, I have been impressed. Impressed by the quality of engagement, the films and the discussions. Impressed by the professionalism, love and care of the CMS team in curating these experiences. Impressed by the many partners working together to make this event important and impactful moments to help create a global culture of conservation and care.”

—Mr Sean Southey, Chair,
Commission on Education and Communication, IUCN

**TWENTY YEARS OF CONTINUOUS ENDEAVOURS TO
ENGAGE, EMPOWER AND INSPIRE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSCIOUSNESS**





Conservation through Films and Environment Forums



Total Entries Received (in nos.)

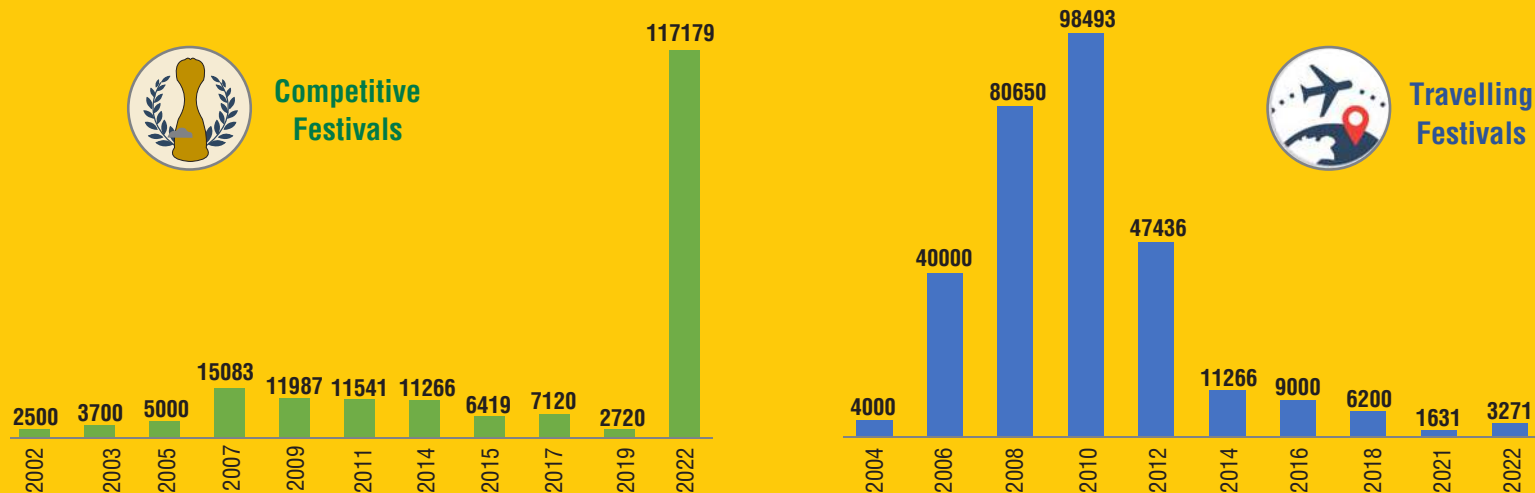


- In the first year of CMS VATAVARAN there were only 100 films that were screened. However, in the 2022 festival we have **received 824 films from 86 countries and 25 Indian states**. This innovative festival has given all the diverse partners an opportunity to deliberate on a range of conservation issues through 3000+ film screenings across India. The vast range of issues includes climate change, natural heritage conservation, water, biodiversity, climate change and sustainable technologies; all critical challenges faced by the world today!

- The unprecedented growth of public participation in CMS VATAVARAN has also been remarkable. When the festival began in 2002 with just 2500 participants it was unimaginable that in twenty years we would have the privilege of hosting **more than 29,2116 people in travelling festivals and 78,715 people in competitive festivals from 2002 onwards**. Gender wise significantly more women participation has been ensured by the organizers.
- The **11th Edition of Film Festival in 2022 was organized in hybrid mode** for this festival, **more than 60,000** participants registered. The nominated films were screened online exclusively on India Science, an Internet-based science Over The-Top (OTT) TV channel from 11 to 23 April 2022 that has been watched by more than thirty-three thousand (33000) viewers around the globe, at their own convenience. They watched films more than sixty-three thousand (63000) times during this festival duration. Apart from film screenings of these festival films, a number of online and offline discussions, seminars, workshops and award ceremonies were organized.



Year Wise Participation in CMS VATAVARAN Film Festivals and Forums (in nos.)





Awards

CMS VATAVARAN is the one of the premier film festival which gives cash awards to filmmakers to promote filmmaking as a profession in the country. The coveted awards are keenly contested by highly accomplished, creative and aspiring filmmakers of India and abroad. The award money and awards has increased from 5 awards, worth INR 4 lakhs in 4 categories in 2002. In 2022 there were **21 awards in 10 Indian and International categories** and award money ranging from INR 25,000 –1, 00,000. Cash prize is only for National Filmmakers.

International bodies such as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), High Commission of Canada, bilateral organizations such as the Embassy of Norway, Embassy of Netherlands, public sector entities like the Canara Bank, and prominent corporate bodies such as the HSBC India, Essar, Indian Oil, HPCL and Thermax Limited have been associated with the coveted CMS VATAVARAN Awards.

- **Indian and International Awards**

Since 2002, hundreds of films have been awarded in 13 categories – Indian and International. International bodies such as the United Nations Environment Program, the Embassy of Norway, Yes Bank, The American Centre, Embassy of Netherlands as well as public sector entities and prominent corporate bodies have been associated with the Awards.

The Judging at CMS VATAVARAN is a three tier process. It consists of **Peer Review, Nomination Jury and Award Jury**. A panel of Nomination Jury reviews and decides on the CMS VATAVARAN Nominees. The Award Jury selects the award winners from amongst the Nominated films. The Jury looks for content, treatment, presentation, authenticity, accuracy, technical excellence, educational value and motivational elements. Both, the Nomination Jury and the Award Jury consists of a panel of experts and professionals from diverse backgrounds such as environmental wildlife, film production, academicians, media, Industry representatives, cinema and advertising world etc., of national and international repute. Over the years, **more than 500 eminent individuals** from media, subjects, critics and cinema backgrounds have come together to select the best green films.





Jayashree Nandi, Hindustan Times (YEJA 2019)



Ms Pritha Chatterjee & Mr Aniruddha Ghosal
The Indian Express (YEJA 2015)

• Young Environmental Journalist Award

- This special award initiated in the year 2007, for excellence in environmental journalism has ensured journalists efforts are reinforced through this recognition. In each competitive festival, the Young Environment Journalist Award is presented to a journalist who has done exemplary investigative and inspired reporting on environmental issues, and made a significant contribution in either the print or electronic media to an understanding of the nation's environmental problems.
- Environment journalists, **Bahar Dutt** (CNN-IBN), **Amarjyoti Borah** (Freelancer), **Aarti Dhar** (The Hindu), **Pierre Fitter** (NEWSX), **Soma Basu** (The Statesman), **Manu C Kumar** (Manorama News), **Juhi Chaudhury** (CNN IBN) and **Chandan Haygunde** (Indian Express), **Pritha Chatterjee** (Indian Express), **Annirudh Ghosal** (Indian Express) & **Manu Moudgil** (India Water Portal), **Ritam Halder** (Hindustan Times), **Aishwarya S Iyer** (The Quint), **Sowmiya Ashok** (The Indian Express) were some of the winners of this Award.
- The 2019 IHCAP – CMS Young Environmental Journalist Award was conferred to **Nidhi Jammwal** (Freelance), **Bhaskar Tripathi** (IndiaSpend), **Milan Sharma** (Aaj Tak), **Jayashree Nandi** (Hindustan Times), **Rahul Manv** (Danik Jagaran).

Prithvi Awards



Ms Rita Banerji (Prithvi Ratna 2017)



Shri Rajinder Singh (Prithvi Bhushan 2019)

Prithvi Ratna:

- The Prithvi Ratna Award is conferred upon a filmmaker for exemplary work in the field of the environment throughout his/ her career and for being able to effect changes in perceptions and policies via their work. The coveted CMS VATAVARAN Prithvi Ratna Award has been given since 2003 by CMS VATAVARAN to eminent filmmakers for their outstanding contribution to nature and conservation filming throughout their career which has resulted in bringing change in perception, practice and policy with regards to the environment.

The Award has been conferred to eminent filmmakers like **Mike Pandey, Naresh Bedi, Shekar Dattatri, Krishnendu Bose, Ashish Chandola, Sanjay Barnela, Rita Banerji and Himanshu Malhotra**

Prithvi Bhushan:

Prithvi Bhushan is bestowed to recognize the efforts of leadership in environment conservation and transformational on ground achievements.

- Initiating the first ever lifetime achievement award in 2015, the CMS - YES Bank Prithvi Bhushan Award was conferred upon **Mr Anupam Mishra**, a journalist, environmentalist, and water conservationist who worked extensively on promoting water conservation and water management.
- Mr. Chandi Prasad Bhatt** was presented with the 2017 National Geographic- **CMS Prithvi Bhushan Award**. He is considered as one of India's first modern environmentalist. As a Gandhian environmentalist and social activist, he was one of the pioneers of the Chipko Movement. The Government of India conferred him with Padma Shri 1986 and Padma Bhushan 2005.
- Shri Rajinder Singh** was conferred **CMS Prithvi Bhushan Award** in 2019. Shri Rajinder Singh ji's work has been historic in its scope and inspirational in its impact. Known as the 'Waterman of India' his extraordinary work on water conservation has revived five river systems, bringing back water to more than a thousand villages.



Canada



IHCAP Indian Himalayas Climate Adaptation Programme



Kingdom of the Netherlands



Discovery



Creating Credible Platforms

• Multi Partner Initiative

Partnership is the hallmark of CMS VATAVARAN. Since 2002, more than 500 partners have lent their support and knowledge to make it the first ever multi-partner initiative of this scale in the country. CMS VATAVARAN is now a national movement. From 3 partners in 2002 to more than 500 partners till 2022 with CMS VATAVARAN have been on boarded.

The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Govt of India has been a Principal Partner in this initiative since its inception. Several state governments, environment/forest departments, state pollution control boards, science and technology departments, municipal corporations, Dept. of Information, Cultural Affair and Tourism, State Biodiversity Boards have hosted and partnered CMS VATAVARAN.

This festival has also successfully managed to **encourage public-private partnership** to promote environment consciousness.

Royal Norwegian Embassy, GIZ, Indian Oil, ONGC, DMRC, BHEL, LIC, Star TV, ZEE News, ITC Welcomgroup, Su-kam, Thermax, HSBC, SBI, Union Bank of India, Essar, Embassy of Sweden (Sida), Embassy of Netherlands, Embassy of Denmark, American Centre, Embassy of Japan, British Council, Delhi Government, Bhagidari, UNEP, UNESCO, UNDP, IUCN, PANOS, ATREE, PVR NEST, NMNH, AMDA, SACON, Shri Ram School, IHC, INTACH, WII, ICSF, Pragma, ZOO, TVEAP, EPTRI, EPCO, Oxfam, Climate works, Yes bank, The Asia Foundation, Arghyam, WWF, RSTV, CEE, JAL-JAN Jodo Abhiyan, CSE, PSBT, New Delhi's Nature Society, IFEJ, Sony, Nat Geo, Climate Consortium, are just some of our well known partners.



• Purposive Platform

CMS VATAVARAN has reached out to over 500,000 people. It has the widest reach – the only festival in India that has both nationwide reach and international scale and standards. The festival plus forum design organizes programmes for all stakeholders to participate in making the CMS VATAVARAN a success.

- **Development Sector:** Organizations working on environment and sustainable development, climate change, livelihoods, ecotourism, natural heritage, energy, water, agriculture and sustainable technologies.
- **Corporate Sector and Industries:** Industries in the areas of power, renewable energy, water, waste management, transport, food grains, tourism, film and television, carbon trading, real estate and buildings.
- **Government – Central and State:** Pollution control boards, municipal corporations and councils, state councils for science and technology, forest, environment and wildlife departments, etc.
- **Filmmakers:** Local, regional and national filmmakers from the fields of science, natural history and conservation filmmaking.
- **Media:** Regional, national and international journalists from print, electronic and new media.
- **Educators:** Teachers, professors, researchers, principals and vice chancellors.
- **Students:** Mass Communication, journalism, environmental sciences, engineering and management.
- **Defense and Paramilitary:** Police, Army, Air force, ITBP, BSF, NCC cadets
- **Jail Inmates:** Convicted and under trails

Global Outreach

This path breaking festival which has stimulated production of high quality conservation films in the country has an international presence today. The participation of foreign nationals has helped Indian filmmakers to benefit in several ways. The Indian filmmakers received exposure to latest camera, editing software, audio recording devices and avenues and opportunities for co-productions in home country as well as abroad. The international filmmakers have benefitted from CMS VATAVARAN platform by tying up with Indian filmmakers for co-productions and outsourcing assignments.

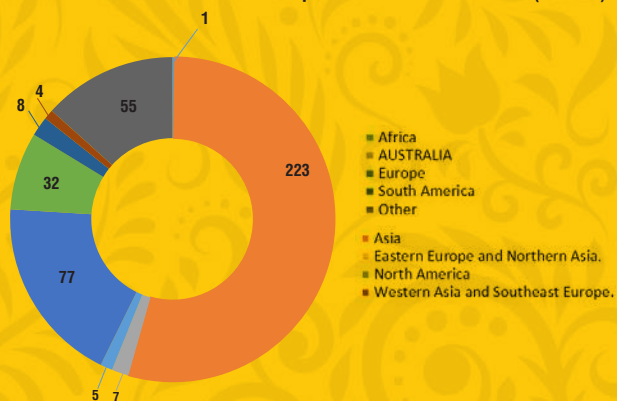
International Filmmakers and Countries

In 2007, CMS VATAVARAN went international and the film entries were invited from across the world. Over the years more than 50 countries have marked their presence in international Film Festival. In 11th edition of CMS VATAVARAN received participation of **202 international films from over 42 countries and 210 national films from 22 states.**

• International Collaborations

CMS VATAVARAN is also making a global impact. The festival has travelled with its films to countries like **United Arab Emirates, Brazil, China, Korea and Bhutan.** International filmmakers, festivals and experts have also participated in various forums during its competitive film festival at New Delhi, India.

Continent wise Films Participation in CMS VATAVARAN (in Nos.)



CMS VATAVARAN has partnered with the following International Festival of acclaim:

Abu Dhabi Indian Environment and Wildlife Film Festival, UAE

Green Film Festival in Seoul, Korea

Eco Cine Film Festival, Brazil

Rodos Eco Films International Film and Visual Arts Festival, Greece

Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival, USA

Wildlife Vaasa Festival, Finland

Inkafest Mountain and Environment Film Festival, PERU

Cinemambiente – International Environmental Film Festival, Italy

Ya'an Panda International Animal & Nature Film Festival, China

Golden Kuker Sofia International Animation Film Festival, Bulgaria

Earth Vision, Japan

Wildscreen Wildlife and Environment Film Festival, UK

Filmambiente International Environmental Film Festival, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Singapore Eco Film Festival (SGEFF)

Smaragdni Eco Film Festival (SEFF), Croatia

Shanghai International Green Film Week, China

Conservation International, U.S.

European Union Film Festival



**ENGAGING DIVERSE STAKEHOLDERS IN FESTIVAL AND FORUM MODE,
ON COMPLEX ENVIRONMENTAL DISCOURSE & ACTION**

Policy Discourse and Impact

Policy Recommendations and Deliberations

CMS VATAVARAN has been an active platform for policy discourse and agenda setting on critical contemporary issues. Since 2002, CMS VATAVARAN thematic focuses have been on:

2020-22	Celebrating Biodiversity
2019-20	Celebrating Himalaya
2017-18	Conservation 4 Water' with special focus on Climate Change
2015-16	Water for Life with Special Focus on "Conserving our Water Bodies"
2013-14	Mainstreaming Biodiversity at Different Levels to Promote Living in Harmony with Nature
2011-12	Biodiversity Conservation
2009-10	Climate Change & Sustainable Technologies and Natural Heritage Conservation
2007-08	Climate Change
2005-06	Forest for Life
2004	Floral and Faunal Diversity of India; Toxicity; Water for Life
2003	Water for Life
2002	Sustainable Environment through Films

Series of very important policy papers have emerged from CMS VATAVARAN deliberations on all the thematic focuses. Some of the important discussions and outcomes are given below:

- Himalayan Summit on Climate Change
- Training session for Teachers on '**Building Conservation Leadership through Education**'



“It was great to see India’s longest running environmental and Wildlife film festival shift gears and go entirely online including live streaming. This might be the events and festivals will be held increasingly as we adapt to these strange yet interesting times.”

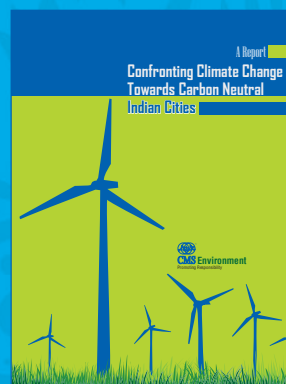
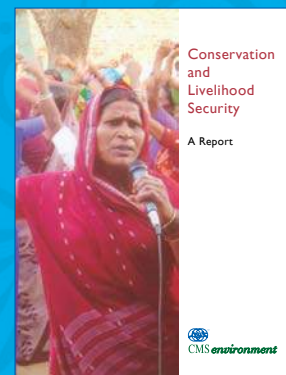
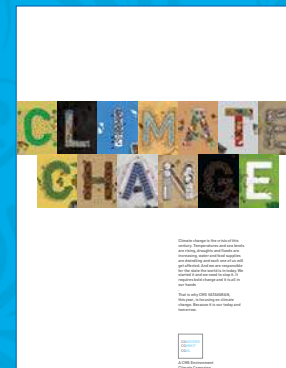
—Gautam Pandey,
National Award winner wildlife filmmaker

- Panel Discussion on the “**Role of Education & Communication in Conservation**”
- The panel discussions on **Conservation and Livelihoods** deliberated on various new ways of ensuring conservation efforts at the local level. Community stake and benefits in conserving their wildlife and environment with sustainable practices and alternate livelihoods was discussed by eminent conservation activists, experts and policy makers. The key recommendations of the deliberations were on three related issues - controlling over extraction of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP), implementation of forest rights act and making eco-tourism work.
- Similarly, during the **seminar on the State of Rivers in India**, a panel of experts made important observations and imperative recommendations to save the Indian rivers. Some of the policy implications discourse included making Ganga Restoration Authority, an independent institution like National Highway Authority to carry out the clearly defined goals in a definite time frame. The notification of River Regulation Zone (RRZ) on the lines of Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) was another strong recommendation from this forum.

The **Climate Change** seminars across the country provided impetus to the National Climate Change Action Plan by making important policy submissions for its effective implementation. Senior government officials and eminent experts discussed and suggested that transformation of this Action Plan into reality is contingent upon the response at the state level. It needs to be ensured that all states are able to respond to climate change with appropriate exposure to differential vulnerability through climate change adaptations and mitigations measures.

Significant recommendations have evolved from the discussions on ‘**Confronting Climate Change- Towards Carbon Neutral Indian Cities**’ workshop with urban local bodies’ municipal commissioners. Some of these included the following:

The urgent need to **develop a base line for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions** from cities and these projections scenarios be taken into account for the developmental path of the city in short, medium and long term time, while tracking the high and fast growing GHG emitting categories.



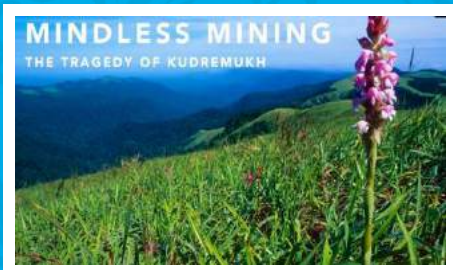
Identifying opportunities whereby the **relevant missions of the National Action Plan on Climate Change can be integrated** such as increasing energy efficiency, water management, etc. for mitigating the emissions in short and medium term.

Developing plans to mitigate carbon emissions in the long term that include technology, institutional arrangements and policy directives with clear indications for financing actions.

In the **Symposium on Challenges in Conserving Natural Heritage**, eminent panelists put forward several suggestions and a multitude of measures to conserve natural heritage. While admitting collective responsibility, the panelists also came up with a set of recommendations for various stakeholders to protect and promote our natural heritage.

In the **Seminar on Ecotourism - Relevance for India, Experiences, Challenges and Future Prospects**, the discussions were focused on an overall national policy on eco-tourism, setting standards, introducing certifications and accountability for promising popular concept.





Films as an Instrument for Policy Change

Some examples of policy impact of CMS VATAVARAN award winning films:

- **Cherub of the Mist:** Triggered state administrative action – The then WB Chief Minister Mr. Buddhadeb Bhattacharya (Year 2009), ordered fencing of Sinaloa's Border with Nepal, located in West Bengal between Nepal and Bhutan to protect the vanishing species.
- **A Second Hand Life:** Highlighted e-waste recycling issues in the country and triggered a discourse on existing e-waste policy in the country.
- **Broken Wings:** Government bans the veterinary drug diclofenac - Farmers adopts alternative methods. Devastating extinctions of vultures halted. Extinction would have had massive health consequences.
- **Shores of Silence - Whale Sharks in India:** Provoked legislation. Whale Sharks brought on par with the endangered tiger and rhinoceros under the Indian Wildlife Act- 1972 banning the killing of the Whale Sharks on Indian shores
- **Mindless Mining:** Films as court evidence – wins a ban on mining in Kudremukh National Park. (Ref - SC judgment of 2005).

Capacity Building of Educational Centres

• Activities in Academic Institutions

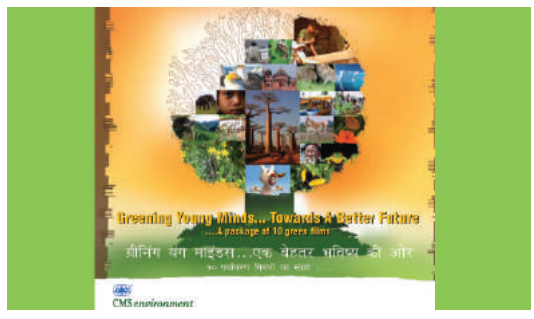
Youth has been important stakeholders for CMS VATAVARAN. **More than 2000 schools, colleges and universities** have been actively participating in **film screenings, eco-tours to fragile ecosystems, animation, filmmaking, eco-games, puppet, comic making workshops, panel discussions, quizzes, creative expressions competitions etc.** In all, over this decade almost **2,37,788 young people have been engaged with CMS VATAVARAN.** In 2022, separate special categories for Students and Amateur Filmmakers was announced to encourage students from various institution to participate in this prestigious forum.

We also provide green films to a unique portal - **“One Planet Academy”** which is initiated by WWF, India to spread awareness as well as to provide environmental education among school students and teachers. In addition, during every CMS VATAVARAN festival, special screenings and interactions with film makers are organized for school and college students.

• Enriching Green Curriculum of Indian Schools

CMS VATAVARAN has led to the creation and collation of ready-to-use, high quality topical audio-visual resource materials. **“Greening Young Minds... Towards a Better Future” – is a compilation of 10 best films on environment and wildlife in both Hindi and English by 10 best filmmakers.** The compilation provides educators with an effective tool to raise awareness among children on environmental issues, lucidly, through brilliant moving images and animation.

This package was **distributed amongst 30,000 schools** which have functional eco-clubs (a countrywide programme of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt of India popularly known as National Green Corps - NGC). **The Greening Young Minds package covered topics like climate change, climate change and sustainable technologies, environmental conservation, forest, nature, e-waste, water and wildlife conservation.**



• Capacity Building of Educators

Educators are the change makers of society and enhancing their knowledge would result in empowering an entire future generation. Therefore, special efforts were made to add value to their skills and capacities. Nearly **14 participatory primer workshops** across the country were organized including in Shimla, Hyderabad, Port Blair, Shillong, Thiruvananthapuram, Bhubaneswar, Leh, and Port Blair. These workshops were able to **involve more than 280 schools and 560 educators** on issues like low carbon economy, low carbon practices, climate change and biodiversity.

• Indian Universities Collaborations

CMS VATAVARAN collaborated with various prestigious universities from India to organize its travelling film festivals and forums such as Chitkara University, Panjab University, PSCST, University of Hyderabad, Martin Luther Christian University, University of Rajasthan, Doon University, Goa University, Tripura University, University of Kashmir, Gujarat Vidyapeeth, Himachal Pradesh University, SNDT University, Azim Premji University, BITS Pilani, Chandigarh University etc. These Universities provided knowledge support for conducting seminars, symposiums and panel discussions in their respective states.

• Green Films Resource Centre

Established in 2007, the Audio Visual Resource Centre (AVRC) supported by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Gol is a **state-of-the-art archive** of more than **3500 documentaries, films and audio spots** on environment and related development issues.

CMS VATAVARAN Archive has currently a collection of more than 3500 since 2001.

#archive- <http://vatrepo.cmsvatavarana.org/>



“First of all, a big thanks to Team CMS VATAVARAN for organizing such an amazing festival. To be honest, this festival fully motivated me to raise environmental awareness. Looking forward to more such events.”

—Chirag Jha, (Student), Delhi School of Journalism

“I enjoyed the informative sessions of CMS VATAVARAN and am grateful to have been enlightened by such an amazing event.”

—Arunima Dey, (Student)
Acharya Narendra Dev College, University of Delhi

- **Capacity building of aspiring filmmakers**

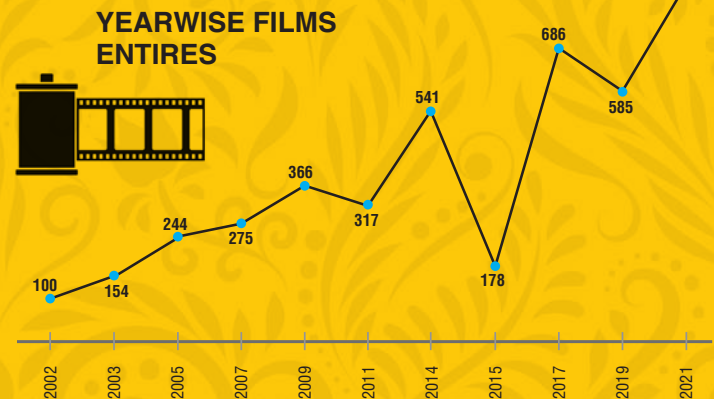
Technical workshops are much sought after programs of the festival. Several workshops and training sessions have been organized to build the capacity of youth, aspiring filmmakers, photographers etc. to acquaint them with newer techniques and technologies. **Nearly 4000 people participated in more than 100 such workshops.**

Raised the Bar:

It is not just quantity that is driving CMS VATAVARAN but also the quality, year after year. The award winners have been selected through very rigorous, elaborate, and transparent process. The selection is done after three rounds of evaluation in which more than 40–50 eminent personalities from different sectors dedicate their valuable time and expertise to recognize high-quality films, thus raising the standards in every competitive festival. Over the years, more than 500 eminent individuals from the media, subjects, and critics and cinematic backgrounds have come together to select the best talents and green films.



Ms. Tamara Mona, Deputy Head, Embassy of Switzerland and Mr. Ravi Agrawal, Additional Secretary, MoEF&CC





CMS VATAVARAN Award Ceremony (2007)

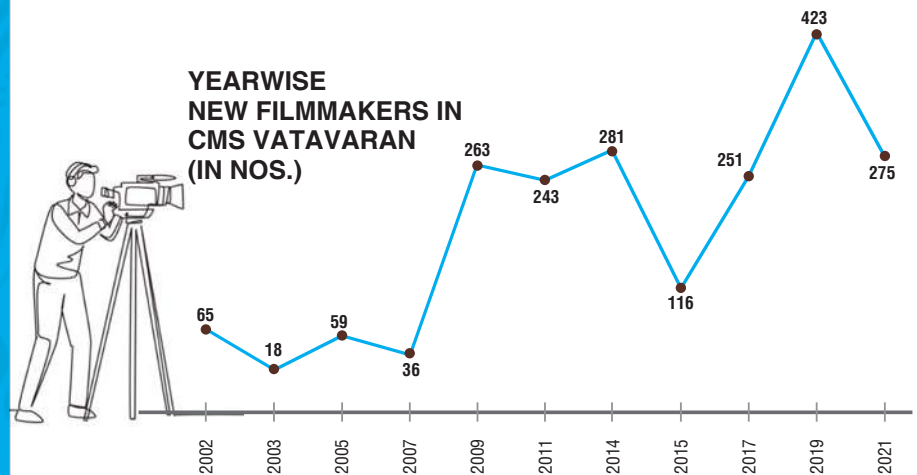


CMS VATAVARAN Travelling Festival (2021)

• Nurtured New Generation of Alternate Filmmakers

Filmmakers associated with the festival in the initial years continue to patronize this evolving festival, while a number of new filmmakers continue to join forces with this international endeavor.

Asian Filmmakers' Forum: In 2011, Asian filmmakers' summit was initiated as an important platform for conservation filmmakers from Asian countries seeking international production assignments as well as a market for their film and creative skills. The summit is for Asian filmmakers, broadcasters, commissioners and distributors for networking, funding and exchanging ideas.



Sustained Media Engagement for Long-term Impact

• Media Coverage

The festival and Forum is a pioneering initiative in engaging mass media for promoting environmental issues. In the process, it has consistently engaged the state run broadcaster, Doordarshan, Star Network, ZEE News and several regional channels. In the process, CMS VATAVARAN has consistently engaged the state run broadcaster, Doordarshan, Star Network, ZEE News, TV9, ETV and several regional channels. This is an outcome of CMS VATAVARAN's sustained campaign for putting environment on the national agenda.

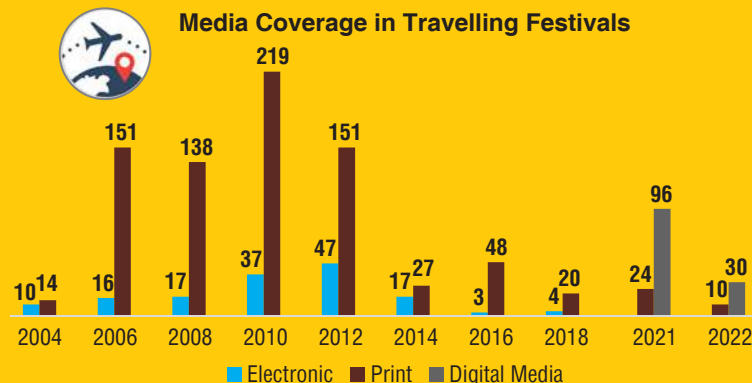
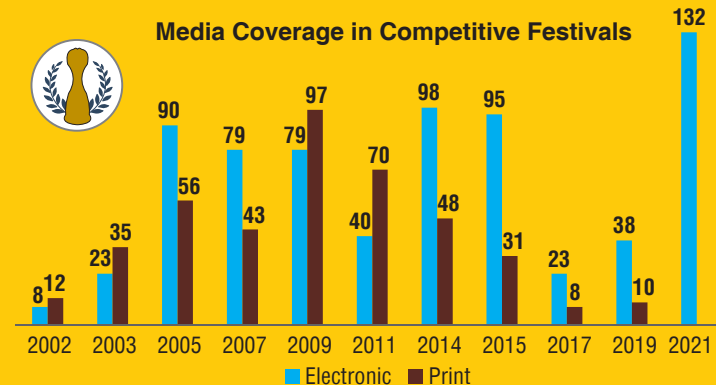
• Media Forums

CMS VATAVARAN has created a platform that aims to work with the media in a sustained way to ensure media becomes a powerful tool to create awareness on environmental issues and facilitates advocacy. International journalists' congress, field visits, media roundtables, special workshops, master classes and awards has inspired nearly 1007 environmental journalists to network further and build on their capacities. CMS VATAVARAN has organized 19 programme exclusively for media professionals in the last festivals across the country engaging more than 130 media organizations (national and international).

The journalists' congresses were organized on pertinent issues like 'Reshaping the Future of Environmental Journalism – Issues, Challenges and the Way Forward!' (2011 and 2012), 'Human-Wildlife Conflicts and Sustainable Development' (2005), 'Bridging North-South Differences in Reporting Climate Change - Journalists' Role in Reaching an Agreement at COP15 in Copenhagen' (2009) and 'Water in the Newsroom' (2015). 10th edition of CMS VATAVARAN festival organized two days Himalayan Summit on Climate Change on November 27 to 28, 2019. Approx. 63 participants attended this Summit.



Media Coverage in CMS VATAVARAN Film Festivals



The Media workshops focused on skill and capacity development, included topics like

- Water in the Newsroom
- RSS and Mapping Stories with Google Maps
- Bus Rapid Transport Systems in Delhi and Ahmedabad
- Non-Motorize Transport (NMT) System
- Fuel Efficiency and Standards
- Human – Wildlife conflicts, with reference to India's vanishing Tigers
- How can TV do a better job on covering the environment?
- E-journalism; Reporting on environment, science and development

The interesting field trips with media professionals from across 40 countries of the world included visits to:

- Leh to witness the Glacier melting in the Himalaya due to climate change
- Anantapur in Andhra Pradesh to know climate change adaption initiatives in drought prone region
- Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh to study climate change adaption measures in flood prone region
- Ranthambore Tiger Reserve, Rajasthan to witness human and animal conflict in Tiger Reserves
- A two-day field visit to Parvati Valley and Banjar in Kullu district of Himachal Pradesh was organized on September 23-24, 2019 by IHCAP and CMS.



Media Workshop, Uttarkashi



National Media Consultation, Kullu & Delhi

Building Specialized Knowledge Networks for Action

Since 2002, CMS VATAVARAN has been forging partnership, networking and bringing together diverse organizations on one platform. CMS Environment has built a strong specialized knowledge network of professionals and subject experts from India and across the world over the years on new environmental knowledge, expertise, practices and solutions.

The networks include:

Government Departments: Created a network of science, biodiversity, ecotourism, environment, forest, wildlife, non-conventional energy, pollution control boards, tourism, water, information & broadcasting and other related 340 departments in 24 states.

Corporates/ PSUs: more than 176 corporates have been engaged proactively in the films selection process, employees' engagement, corporate screenings & deliberations and through partnerships.

Film Festivals/ Film Clubs/ Film Societies: CMS VATAVARAN over the years has extended film content and expertise to other film festivals, film clubs and film societies across the country.

Honouring Green Ambassadors: One of the important aspects of CMS VATAVARAN is to bring grass root initiatives and innovations to the fore. To take this legacy forward, 59 such individuals who have been doing remarkable work in the field of environmental conservation in their city, town, district, gram panchayats or villages. The awardees are chosen through nominations from diverse backgrounds ranging from academics, research, filmmaking,



“All of the world needs healing and inspiration. While we desperately wait for the lockdown to be over and get back to our normal lives, the question I really wish to ask the world is: what normal life do they wish to continue with? During these times when we really need to ask this question to ourselves, I really feel that the answer lies in the films showcased by CMS VATAVARAN during the COVID-19 lockdown. I really feel that these films should be available for a wider audience to learn from and, at the same time, get inspired by.”

—Aarti Shrivastava,
National award-winning filmmaker and Asia 21 IPYLI Fellow



Mr Krishnendu Bose, Eminent Filmmaker



Mr Naresh Bedi, Eminent Filmmaker



Shri Anupam Mishra, Environmentalist

journalism, environment education, grassroots activities, etc. The objective behind the felicitation has been to acknowledge and recognize the work being done at the grassroots level by individuals so that it can act as a source of inspiration to others and encourage people to come forward for the cause of environment.

Filmmakers: From 2002 onwards more than 3500 filmmakers have sent their films in CMS VATAVARAN competitions and also participated in several forums & programmes. The festival was instrumental in enhancing networking within filmmakers' fraternity, enriching their expertise and broadening their horizon.

Research Think Tanks: CMS VATAVARAN workshops, symposiums, conferences, expert talks, panel discussions in the festival and forum has been able to bring together **480** research think tanks including **Researchers, Research Institutions, Scientists, Environmentalists/ Conservationist** for deliberation on the contemporary environmental issues and its policy relevance.

Civil Society's Network at Grassroots: Facilitated by CMS VATAVARAN more than **550** organizations are connected today and collaborating across India. The network from Leh to Port Blair, Kerala to Meghalaya, thus created has been building and drawing on each other for strength and expertise on environmental issues.

Defense and Paramilitary Forces: Approximately 4873 officers and jawans of Indian paramilitary forces have also been part of the discourse on diverse green concerns.

Jail Inmates: More than 5000 convicted and under trails inmates were involved in deliberations on regional and local environmental issues through films.

Eminent Associations

CMS VATAVARAN has enthused and involved India's most respected celebrated film personalities, eminent celebrities and head of the states (governors, chief ministers and ministers) like Shri Mahesh Bhatt, Shri Amol Palekar, Ms. Nandita Das, Ms. Revati Menon, Governor of Uttarakhand, Meghalaya, Chief Minister of Delhi, Rajasthan and others. Shri Shyam Benegal, Dr Karan Singh, Shri Adoor Gopalakrishnan and Shri Amol Palekar have been the jury and steering committee chairpersons.

CMS VATAVARAN had presence and patronage of:

Heads of the Indian & State Governments, Hon'ble Ministers and the Parliamentarians

Smt Alina Saldanah Hon'ble Minister of Environment and Forests, Goa

Smt Ambika Soni Hon'ble Minister of I & B Govt of India (then)

Shri Ashok Gehlot Hon'ble Chief Minister of Rajasthan,

His Excellency Dr Aziz Qureshi Hon'ble Governor of Uttarakhand

Shri Binoy Vishwam Minister for Housing and Forests Kerala State, Housing Board

Shri Debi Prasad Mishra Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture Fisheries & Animal Resources Development Housing & Urban Development Orissa

Dr Farooq Abdullah hon'ble Minister of New and Renewable Energy, Govt of India

Shri Jaipal S Reddy hon'ble Minister of Science and Technology and Minister of Earth Sciences Govt of India

Ms Jayanthi Natrajan Hon'ble Minister of Environment and Forests, Govt of India

Dr Karan Singh President of Indian Council of Cultural Relations and Member Rajya Sabha

Shri Manik Sarkar Hon'ble Chief Minister Tripura

Shri N Kiran Kumar Reddy Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh

Shri Namo Narayan Meena Hon'ble Minister of State for Environment , and Forests Govt of India (then)

Shri Partha Chatterjee Hon'ble Minister-In-Charge Commerce and , Industries Industrial Reconstruction Public Enterprises Parliamentary Affairs and Information Technology Govt of West Bengal

Dr Pramod Sawant Honourable CM of Goa

Shri Ramakant Goswami Hon'ble Minister of Industries Labour and Elections Govt of NCT of Delhi

His Excellency Shri Ranjit Shekhar Mooshahary Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya

Prof Saif-u-Din Soz Hon'ble Union Minister for Water Resources Govt , of India (then)

Shri Satrucharla Vijayaramaraju Hon'ble Minister for Forest, Environment Science & Technology Andhra Pradesh

Smt Sheila Dikshit Hon'ble Chief Minister of Delhi,

Shri Sudarsan Ghosh Dastidar Hon'ble Minister-In-Charge PWD and , Environment Department Govt of West Bengal

Shri Suresh P Prabhu Former Union Minister Govt of India,

Shri T R Baalu Hon'ble Minister for Environment and Forests Govt of India (then)

Shri Thakur Gulab Singh Hon'ble Minister for Public Works, Departments Govt of Himachal Pradesh (then)

Shri Thiru T Thiagarajan Hon'ble Minister for Forest Science , Technology and Environment Govt of Puducherry

Shri Tshering Wangdi Lepcha Honble Minister Forest, Environment & Wildlife Management

His Excellency Shri V B Wanchoo Hon'ble Governor of Goa

Shri Vijay Kapoor former Lt Governor of Delhi

LIGHTS, CAMERA, SUSTAINABILITY: INSPIRING DEBATE AND ACTION FOR A SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES AND HEALTHY PLANET



• Celebrities/ Artists

Mr Adil Hussain, Actor

Shri Adoor Gopalakrishnan, Eminent Filmmaker and Dadasaheb Phalke Awardee

Shri Amol Palekar, Eminent Actor, Director and Producer and Jury Chairperson, 7th CMS VATAVARAN 2014 Award Jury

Mr Anant, Radio Jockey

Shri Basu Chatterjee, Veteran Filmmaker

Mr Girish Malik, Director, Jal

Shri Govind Nihlani, Eminent Filmmaker

Shri Jahnu Barua, Eminent Filmmaker

Shri Mahesh Bhatt, Eminent Filmmaker

Ms Nafisa Ali Sodhi, Miss India 1976, Actress and Social Activist

Smt Nandita Das, Eminent Filmmaker and Actress

Shri Prakash Jha, Eminent Filmmaker

Mr Purab Kholi, Eminent Actor

Smt Revathy Menon, Eminent Filmmaker and Actress

Shri Ricky Kej, Grammy® Winning Musician/ US Billboard #1 & Environmentalist

Mr Saurabh Shukla, Actor

Mr Saurabh, Radio Jockey

Ms Shabana Azmi, Eminent Actor

Shri Shyam Benegal, Veteran Filmmaker, Dadasaheb Phalke Award Winner and Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)

Smt Suhasini Mulay, National Film Award winner, Eminent

Ms Tannishtha Chatterjee, Actress

Padma Shree Shri Tom Alter, Eminent Actor



10th CMS VATAVARAN Award Jury Members, 2019

- **Ambassadors of Foreign Countries, representatives of Bilateral/ Multilateral Organisations, Embassies and Corporates**

Dr Abid Hussain, Former Indian Ambassador to the United States

Her Excellency Ms Ann Ollestad, Ambassador of Norway to India

Mr Carl Gustaf Svensson, Counsellor, Development Co-operation, SIDA

Mr Colin Shonk (Counsellor and Head, of the Advocacy Program, Embassy of Canada),

Mr Dennis Aig, Programme, Director, MFA Science & Natural History Filmmaking, Montana State University, Bozeman, USA

Ms Diana Garlytska CEC Regional Vice Chair for West Europe and Co-Chair of Youth Engagement and Intergenerational Partnerships, Lithuania

Dr Dieter Mutz, Director, Advisory Services in Environment Management (ASEM), GIZ

Mr Dominique Dreyer, Ambassador of Switzerland to India

H E Mr Dorji Wangdi, Opposition Leader of the Royal Government of Bhutan

His Excellency Mr Eivind S Homme, Ambassador of Norway to India

Mr Franz Kraus, Managing Director, Arri, Germany

Shri Ganesan Balachander, Ford Foundation, New Delhi

Mr George Klusmann, Counsellor, Climate Change, Renewable Energy & Tourism, Embassy of Federal Republic of Germany

Dr Hakkan Tropp, Director, UNDP Water Governance Facility, Sweden

Ms Karen Keenleyside Co-Chair of #NatureforAll, Canada

Ms Lise Grande, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in India

Ms Luis Alberto CAMARGO, CEC Regional Vice Chair for South America and Co-Chair of Nature Education for Sustainability Organisation: para la Educación y Protección Ambiental OpEPA, Colombia

Ms Margaret (Meg) Beckel, Former CEO Canadian Museum of Nature

Ms Margaret OTIENO, CEC Deputy Chair, Wildlife Clubs of Kenya, Kenya

Mr Michael P Pelletier, Minister Counsellor for Public Affairs, Embassy of USA

Sir Micheal Arthur, British High Commissioner

Ms Naina Lal

Mr Ralf Quibeldey, Commissioning Editor – Nature and Wildlife, Norddeutscher Rundfunk (NDR), Germany

Mr Sean SOUTHEY, IUCN CEC Chair, Organisation: Zamia Media Canada

Mr Srinivasan Iyer, Assistant Country Director and Head, Energy and Environment, UNDP India and CMS VATAVARAN 2014 Nomination Jury Chairperson

Mr Stephan Helming, Country Director, GIZ India

Mr Tshewang Tandin (President, Royal Thimphu College)

Ms Vatosoa Rakotondrazafy, CEC Regional Vice Chair for Eastern and Southern Africa BEOLOBE, Madagascar



• Scientists/ Researchers/ Academicians/ CSO/ Environmentalists

Mr Anil Prakash Joshi (Dr), Founder Member, Himalayan Environmental Studies and Conservation Organisation (HESCO), Uttarakhand

Ms Aruna Roy Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS), Rajsamand

Shri Chandni Prasad Bhatt Founder, Environmentalist, Dasholi Gram Swarajya Mandal, Uttarakhand

Mr Edgar Endrukaitis Biodiversity Programme Director, GIZ

Ms Geetha Bakilapadavu Associate Professor at BITS, Goa

Dr George Schaller Vice President, Panthera and Senior Conservationist, Wildlife Conservation Society, USA

Dr Isher Judge Ahluwalia Economist and Author

Prof M S Swaminathan Chairman, M S Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai

Prof Madhav Gadgil Professor, Centre for Ecological Sciences (CES), Indian Institute of Science (IIS)

Ms Medha Patkar, Eminent Activist, Narmada Bachao Andolan

Dr Minal Desai Shirodkar Assistant Professor of Zoology, PhD (Goa University),

Dr Minal Desai Shirodkar, Assistant Professor of Zoology, PhD (Goa University),

Dr Prannoy Roy Executive Co – Chairperson, NDTV

Ms Radhika Mulay Researcher, Centre for Water Research and Living Waters Museum Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Pune

Shri Rajendra Singh Social Activist and recipient of Magsaysay Award, Alwar

Mr Shashwat Gupta Ray Deputy editor, Herald Group of Publications, Goa,

Dr Solano Da Silva Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Social sciences, BITS Goa

Mr Sujeet Dongre, Programme Coordinator, CEE

Shri Sunderlal Bahugana, Eminent Environmentalist and Chipko Movement Leader

Ms Sunita Narain, Director General, Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)

Ms Tallulah D Silva, Founder/Principal Architect, Architecture T, Goa



“The government’s regulation cannot be panacea for all ills. The CMS VATAVARAN is a manifestation of this new emphasis on awareness.”

— **Shri T R Baalu**,
Union Minister, Ministry of Environment & Forests,
Government of India



• Senior Government Officials

Shri Ajay Srivastav, PCCF(Wildlife) and Chief Wildlife Warden Himachal Pradesh

Shri Anil Thakur, APCCF and State Nodal Officer, SECURE Himalaya Project,

Dr Balakrishnan Pisupati, Chairman, National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), Chennai

Dr Erach Bharucha, Director, Bharati Vidyapeeth Institute of Environment Education and Research, Pune

Dr Jatinder Kaur Arora, Executive Director, PSCST Govt of Punjab

Dr Kulbir Singh Bath, Joint Director PSCST Govt of Punjab

Shri Manoj Thakur, PhD State Project Officer (SECURE Himalaya)

Dr Manoj Thakur, SPO (SECURE Himalaya),

Shri Mayur Dixit, District magistrate of Uttarkashi

Shri NPS Dhaulta (DFO- Headquarter)

Dr Pawan Kotwal, IAS, Principal Secretary (Health/Revenue/Planning, Dev & Monitoring/Forest) UT of Ladakh

Dr Pradip Sarmokadam, Member Secretary Goa Biodiversity Board

Shri Preet Pal Singh, Chief Wildlife Warden, Department of Wildlife Protection, Union Territory of Ladakh

Shri R M S Liberhan, Director, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

Shri R N Srivastava, DD, Gangotri National Park,

Smt Rajani Bhandari, Additional Director, Khangchendzonga National Park and Biosphere Reserve,

Shri Rajiv Kumar, Pr CCF (Wildlife) and Chief Wildlife Warden, Himachal Pradesh

Shri Udai Gurung, CF(WL)-cum-Nodal Officer, SECURE Himalaya-Sikkim

Mr Umed Singh Dhakad, Project Coordinator, Secure Himalayan Project

Dr V Candavelou, IAS, Secretary, Science, Technology & Environment, Govt of Puducherry

Shri Vivek Rae, Chief Secretary, Andaman and Nicobar Administration

Dr B C Choudhury, Executive Trustee and the Principal Investigator of Aquatic Projects, WTI

Shri M L Srivastava, IFS, ACS -cum- PCCF Sikkim



• Media Partners

94.3 my FM, Bhopal

Akaash Tripura

Dainik Bhaskar, Shimla

Delhi Events

Geography & You

Gujarat Samachar, Ahmedabad

HFS Himalayan Films Studio, Leh

Himvani, Shimla

India Water Portal

Kanak TV, Odisha

Media Khabar

Media Plus, Shillong

Meghalaya Times, Shillong

Meghalayadaily.com, Shillong

Nav Duniya , Bhopal

Nazar TV, Ranchi

Radio Choklate, Odisha

Radio Khushi, Dehradun

Radio Mirchi, Delhi

Radio Mirchi 98.3 FM, Ahmedabad

Radio Mirchi, Jaipur

DSMARKIT Social Media and IT Solution Pvt. Ltd.

Radio Oo La 91.5, Shillong

Rajasthan Patrika, Bhopal

ZEE Media

ZEE News

Sakaal Media Group, Pune

Star TV

The Hindu, Coimbatore

Thethirdpole.net

Times of India, Lucknow

Tripura Darpan

Tripura Info

TV9, Coimbatore and Hyderabad

U Nongnsain~ Hima, Shillong

Prabhat Khabar

RSTV

Doordarshan

All India Radio

Down To Earth

Discovery

Live Media

National Geographic

Press Club of Shimla

Ladakh Film Society

PBL Nazar, Ranchi

World Vision, Ahmedabad

CMS VATAVARAN TEAM

Over the years, CMS VATAVARAN film festivals were organized with outstanding contribution, facilitation and support from all CMS Team members, Market Development Research Associates (MDRA) staff, Interns and Volunteers.

The team also received guidance and unwavering support from

Dr N Bhaskara Rao Chairman, CMS

Dr. Vasanti Rao PhD, Director General, CMS

Mr. Sabyesachi Bharti Deputy Director

Ms. Kavita Rakheja Manager - KM and Cordination

Ms. Preeti Kashyap Senior Executive

Mr. Lal Singh Executive



• Former Team Members

Ajay Singh Rawat, Assistant Computer Operator (2009-10)
Alka Tomar, Festival Director – CMS VATAVARAN (2002-14)
Anand Anjani Jha, Sr. Manager –Coordination (2016 -2021)
Aparna Dutta, Programme Officer (2002-03)
Apoorv Dayal, Festival Manager (2002)
Ashwani Sinha, Deputy Director (2006-12)
Avinash Ujjwal, Senior Festival Executive (2010-12)
Bharti Kapoor, Manager (2011-16)
Deepti Roy, Festival Executive (2009-13)
Divya Sharma, Project Manager (2010-11)
Dr. Deya Roy, Head- CMS Environment (2017 -18)
Indira Akoijam, Sr. Manager Communication (2013-16)
Joselyn Joseph, Sr. Executive (2014-17)
K Kapithra, Logistic Manager (2006-07)
Mou Biswas, Project Manager (2006-07)
Munazza Bilal, Project Executive (2008-09)
Narender Yadav, Senior Manager – Communication (2009-10)
Pratiskha Gogia, Project Executive (2009-10)
Priya Verma, Festival Coordinator (2003-14)
Rajkumar, Executive (2013-2022)
Raju Yadav, Assistant Computer Operator (2009-11)
Rashi Gupta, Sr. Executive (2015-16)
Ritika Kapoor, Executive (2016 -17)
Rohit Singh, Manager-Projects (2004-12)
S M Nair, Advisor (2009-10)
Sabyesachi Bharti, Festival Manager (2017-2020)
Sakshi Aggarwal, Executive (2016 -17)
Sanjay Mohan, Deputy Director (2005)
Sanjay Negi, Festival Executive (2004-14)
Smita Mehtre, Project Executive (2009-10)
Sundeeep Srivastav, Head Co-ordination (2008-16)
Suraj, Executive (2014-23)
Susmita Chanda, Environment Executive
Vishwajeet Ghoshal, Senior Project Executive (2009-11)
Yashodeep Ghorpade, Senior Events Executive (April-Dec 2003)

Consultants

Bijaya Sharma, Editor
C R Babu (Restoration Ecology)
Dr Duke Ghosh (Climate Change and Economist)
Dr Sumana Bhattacharya (Climate Change Adaptation)
Lima Rosalind (Environmental Education and Outreach)
Payal B Malur, (Environmental Outreach)
Prof Murari Lal (Regional and Local Climate Change and Adaptation)
Seema Bhatt (Biodiversity, Livelihoods and Ecotourism)



“This is the first time I have been invited to the CMS VATAVARAN Festival at the 9th Competitive session. The quality of films is really good and very well put forward with the mixture of all elements.”

– **Shri Govind Nihalini**,
 Eminent Film Director and
 CMS VATAVARAN Award Jury Chairperson 2017



NURTURING CULTURE, CINEMA & CONCERNS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

CMS VATAVARAN – The Journey Forward

CMS VATAVARAN is an ongoing initiative and the festival objectives have to keep up with changing technologies and dynamic media ecosystem to maintain visual media activism. This movement's unfinished agenda and future plans require sustainable catalytic support, partnerships and impetus.

CMS Environment aims to institutionalise the specialised knowledge networking platforms, forge partnerships, enhance capacities and the expertise.

The thematic focus of CMS VATAVARAN have been mainly on Water for Life; Mainstreaming Biodiversity at Different Levels to Promote Living in Harmony with Nature; Biodiversity Conservation; Climate Change and Sustainable Technologies and Natural Heritage Conservation; Climate Change; Forest for Life; Floral and Faunal Diversity of India; Sustainable Environment through Films

- Facilitating increased exchange of thoughts, issues and expertise between Indian and International filmmakers, institutions and organizations.
- Films screenings, festivals, film awards, thematic forums (panels, conferences, discourse, workshops, exhibitions, etc), capacity buildings of filmmakers, journalists, educators, students and government officials.
- Language versioning of the films and reaching out to academic institutions and civil societies for use of films as a medium of environmental education.
- Facilitating Asian Filmmakers Forum for filmmakers, broadcasters, commissioners and distributors for strengthening networking, enhancing funding opportunities and exchanging ideas.
- Develop E-commerce platform for distribution of films to international broadcasters and distributors;
- Optimal utilization of digital and new media distribution platform.



“Hats of CMS VATAVARAN. Putting up a green film festival during times of monumental exigencies speaks volumes about your ‘ConcernForCause’ which indeed is commendable, praiseworthy & extends the message of nature & its bounties... How to prosper, progress & propagate the cohesive bond between nature, life on-ground, above in atmosphere & below depths is the only ultimate solution to humankind, health & wealth, peace & people. Keep Rising.”

—Jalal Uddin Baba,

Environmentalist and award-winning gorilla film-maker





CMSvatavaran
Environment & Wildlife Film Festival and Forum

CMSVATAVARAN is a unique green movement harnessing the power of films, forums and other creative expressions for inspiring environmental conservation and sustainable lifestyles.

CMSVATAVARAN uses the interactive mode of film festivals to engage wide range of stakeholders to impact policy, perceptions and practices related to preservation and conservation of nature. It creates innovative, curated spaces and programs to highlight and discuss contemporary environment and wildlife issues.

This document captures its journey and impact since inception in 2002 up to December 2022

www.cmsvatavaran.org

