



THE IMPERATIVE

Sustainability asked us to do less harm. Regeneration asks us to actively restore.

The **CMS VATAVARAN Regeneration Forum** is the convergence point where powerful environmental stories from across the world meet the communities, institutions, practitioners, and young leaders ready to act on them. Using world-class cinema as a springboard, the Forum serves as a dynamic hub for environmental education. **By hosting strategic dialogues, delivering capacity-building workshops, and facilitating collaborative spaces.**

A Legacy of Impact

CMS VATAVARAN is India's pioneering green movement and an initiative of the Centre for Media Studies (CMS)—a premier think tank dedicated to informing policies, programmes, and practices for equitable development. Since 2002, we have harnessed the power of environmental storytelling to build awareness, deepen ecological understanding, and catalyse action for the natural world.

The 2026 Regeneration Forum

Building on this legacy, the CMS VATAVARAN Regeneration Forum--anchored by our 14th International Film Festival--will take place in Hyderabad from 24–27 November 2026. This four-day event arrives at a pivotal moment when the world must shift from merely sustaining a degraded planet to actively restoring it. Convening a diverse coalition of policymakers, civil society, environmental experts, educators, media and youth, the Forum is designed to translate environmental engagement into measurable, real-world outcomes. Because climate action must directly drive economic empowerment and long-term community resilience, we place a special emphasis on advancing green jobs, sustainable livelihoods, clean energy, and environmental communication.



500+
Public Private Partnerships

90+
Countries Participating

20+
Years of the Movement For Environment Action

Action, Not Just Awareness

CMS VATAVARAN is a community action platform that uses environmental cinema as its core convening tool. **Reflecting true global participation, this year's 14th edition has brought in over 900 films from across the world.** Curated through a rigorous jury process, these exceptional films--and the local **"Green Ambassadors"** we award alongside them for driving significant grassroots change--serve as the shared evidence base from which every dialogue, workshop, and partnership at the Regeneration Forum flows.

When participants witness the same documented reality of a community displaced by floods, a species pulled from extinction, or a village restoring its river, they are no longer debating abstractions. That shared witnessing is what transforms CMS VATAVARAN from a conventional conference into a powerful catalyst for real-world solutions.

Films are the starting point. Community engagement, youth leadership, and lasting partnerships are the outcome.



THREE TRACKS OF ACTION

The 14th edition delivers impact through three integrated tracks of action. These are what the Forum is designed to enable and what the movement measures itself against

01 Connecting Stories to Communities

Environmental stories of displacement and degraded ecosystems often remain invisible to the communities best placed to act on them.

We bridge this gap by taking stories shared in Hyderabad directly into schools, universities, and villages through year-round travelling outreach. Partner organisations can co-facilitate these outreach programs, extending the Forum's reach into their own networks and geographies

Delivers: Deepened grassroots environmental literacy, ensuring critical ecological issues are placed firmly on local and institutional agendas.

02 Building the Next Generation of Environmental Leaders

The critical gap in climate action is a shortage of skilled young leaders.

Throughout the Forum, a dedicated youth track provides direct mentoring, capacity-building in environmental communication, and clear pathways to green livelihoods. Supported by our Green Ambassadors and Young Environment Journalists Awards, young people leave not as passive participants, but as capable catalysts for change.

Delivers: A trained cohort of youth equipped with measurable, real-world skills in leadership, communication, and green careers.

03 Forging Partnerships for Regenerative Action

Organisations driving ground-level restoration rarely find the collaborators needed to scale their work.

The Forum acts as a rare institutional convergence point, built to generate working relationships rather than just conversations. By uniting green enterprises, educators, and funders, we create the conditions for cross-sector collaborations that outlast the event itself.

Delivers: Strategic high-impact public-private partnerships that connect grassroots initiatives with national and global resources.

Scale That Has Been Built, Not Claimed

256000+ Young People Engaged
2100+ Educational Institutions in our Network
3000+ Screenings Held Across India
500+ Public-Private Partnerships and Screenings
620+ IUCN#NatureForAll global partners

Global Relevance: IUCN #NatureForAll Secretariat

This 14th edition carries added significance as CMS VATAVARAN has been entrusted to serve as the Secretariat of the IUCN#NatureForAll Initiative from 2026 to 2029.

This #NatureForAll global movement comprises over 620 partners across 90+ countries, working collectively to strengthen public connection with the natural world. This prestigious mandate positions CMS VATAVARAN as a living bridge, creating a rare opportunity for our partners to connect local Indian conservation efforts with massive international relevance.

An Invitation to Lead, Not Just Support

We are looking for partners who understand that the most powerful instrument for environmental change is a story that makes someone feel something—and then do something.

Aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the Regeneration Forum offers tailored, highly measurable pathways for CSR engagement. Whether your organisation focuses on conservation, education, sustainable enterprise, or community development, CMS VATAVARAN offers a platform of genuine credibility. We provide a network that spans from village schools to global conservation institutions, backed by over two decades of demonstrated impact.

Let us co-lead the regeneration movement, together, as partners in action.
Start the conversation today.

www.cmsvatavar.org
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