



M.S. SWAMINATHAN RESEARCH FOUNDATION

International Conference on **Hunger Free World: Prof. M.S. Swaminathan's Vision for an Evergreen Revolution**

August 7 - 8, 2024
Venue: MSSRF, Chennai

Background

Prof. M.S. Swaminathan, an icon of Science is also celebrated as a crusader who has been actively involved in global efforts to address social equity, food security, poverty, and environmental issues. Prof. Swaminathan's contributions in the area of eliminating hunger through application of science and technology integrating with public policy and institutional development are well known across the world. He stood as a vocal advocate for sustainable agriculture and for the rights of farmers through policies to protect farmers' rights. He highlighted the importance of fair pricing, access to resources, and social support for farmers. Prof. Swaminathan played a pivotal role in making public policy related to biodiversity conservation and advocated the need for participatory management of bioresources for sustainable livelihoods.

His philosophy and vision for an evergreen revolution are enshrined with the principles of blending traditional wisdom with frontier technologies. With foresightedness, in search of solutions to resolve problems in the areas of environment, biodiversity, food, nutrition and climate with transdisciplinary perspectives, Prof. M.S. Swaminathan made a phenomenal impact through the community-based model for practice and mainstreaming in the public policy space. Prof. Swaminathan has been a strong proponent of bringing sustainable development through scientific veracity, gender and social justice. Prof. M.S. Swaminathan believed in the interconnectedness of science, humanity, and a sustainable future. His work continues to inspire researchers, policymakers, practitioners and advocates in the fields of agriculture and sustainable development.

The proposed International Conference in memory of Prof. M. S. Swaminathan is a significant event that commemorates his life, contributions and his vision for an evergreen revolution. The objective of this conference is to pay tribute to Prof. M. S. Swaminathan's legacy by fostering discussions and collaborations that advance the principles of Evergreen revolution, conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity and natural resources, sustainable agriculture for food and nutrition security, strengthening climate resilience by adapting to climate change, appropriate technologies for sustainable and equitable livelihoods, engagement of youth, women and marginalized communities in developmental discourse.

Participants: The conference will bring together a diverse range of participants including scientists, researchers, policymakers, representatives from international organizations, NGOs, farmers' associations, youth leaders, and other stakeholders committed to evergreen revolution.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

August 7, 2024 (DAY: 1) – Wednesday

Inaugural Session

Hunger Free World: Prof. M.S. Swaminathan's Vision for an Evergreen Revolution

09:15 am	Invocation	Tamizh Thai Vazhthu Kurai Ondrum Illai
09:20 – 09:30 am	Welcome and MSSRF's Impact Report Presentation	Dr. Soumya Swaminathan Chairperson, MSSRF, Chennai
09:30 – 09:35 am	Launch of MSSRF's New Logo	Shri. Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister - Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment, Govt. of Odisha
09:35 – 09:40 am	Welcoming dignitaries with Millet Basket	Trustees of MSSRF
09:40 – 09:45 am	Tribute to Prof M S Swaminathan	Mr. N. Ram Chairman Emeritus, The Hindu Publishing Group, Chennai
09:45 – 09:55 am	Special Remarks & Launch of Fisher Women Connect App	Mr. K.V. Shaji Chairman, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Mumbai
09:55 – 10:08 am	Special Address & Launching of Geo - AI Blue Carbon Programme	Dr. P.T.R. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan Hon'ble Minister for Information Technology & Digital Services, Govt. of Tamil Nadu
10:08 – 10:20 am	Presidential Address & Release of Proceedings of Mighty Millets Conference 2023	Shri. Krishna Byre Gowda Hon'ble Minister for Revenue, Govt. of Karnataka,
10:20 – 10:40 am	Inaugural Address & Release of MSSRF's Impact Report 2023 - 2024, Launch of Nutrition Programmes; Release of "M S Swaminathan in conversation with Nitya Rao: A farmer Led Approach to Achieving a Malnutrition free India" – Hindi Version	Shri. Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister - Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment, Govt. of Odisha
10:40 – 10:45 am	Vote of Thanks	Dr. G. N. Hariharan Executive Director, R&D / Govt. Affairs, MSSRF, Chennai

		Organising Secretary
	National Anthem	
10:45 – 11:00 am	Inauguration of the Exhibition of Farmer Producer Organizations Guest of Honour: Dr. P.T.R. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan Hon'ble Minister for Information Technology & Digital Services, Govt. of Tamil Nadu Coordinators: Dr. R. Gopinath, Ms. N.A. Anbuvaahini & Ms. P.M. Jennifer	
11:00 – 11:15 am	Tea Break	
11:15 – 11:45 am	Tribute to Prof M S Swaminathan	
	'Green Revolution to Evergreen Revolution' – Vision of MSS Thought leaders, global researchers and friends of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan will share his contributions from the green revolution to the evergreen revolution. The tributes to Prof. M.S. Swaminathan will highlight his pathbreaking achievements in the area of food, nutrition and livelihood security, and well-being of small and marginal holders.	
	Coordinators: Dr. G. N. Hariharan & Dr. N. Parasuraman	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Bui Ba Bong Former Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Vietnam • Dr. Rudy Rabbinge (Video) Professor emeritus in Sustainable Development and Food Security at Wageningen University, Netherlands • Prof. P.C. Kesavan Former Executive Director, MSSRF, Chennai • Amb. Kenneth M. Quinn (Video) President Emeritus, The World Food Prize Foundation, USA • Dr. Bruce Alberts (Video) Chancellor's Leadership Chair in Biochemistry & Biophysics for Science & Education, UCSF MC 2200, USA 	
11:45 – 12:00	Chair: Dr. Shenggen Fan Director General & Professor, Agricultural University, China Session Coordinator: Dr. G.N. Hariharan	
	Lead Lecture: Dr. Soumya Swaminathan Chairperson, MSSRF, Chennai Title: Protecting Health in a Warming World	

12:00 – 01:30 pm	Session I	
<i>(Each speaker will be given 8-10 minutes maximum for presentation)</i>	Safeguarding Production Systems for Eliminating Hunger	
	Prof Swaminathan believed in the power of international cooperation to address global food security and environmental challenges. The session will provide a platform for researchers, policymakers, farmers and practitioners to share advanced knowledge and innovative approaches and collaborate on locale-specific and people-centric solutions for the protection and sustainability of production systems.	
	Chair: Dr. Madhura Swaminathan Professor and Head, Economic Analysis Unit Indian Statistical Institute, Bengaluru	
	Co-Chair: Shri. Prem Chandra Chaudhary, IAS Director Agriculture and Food Production, Govt. of Odisha, Odisha	
	Session Coordinators: Dr. R. Rengalakshmi & Dr. V.R. Prabavathy	
	Rapporteurs: Dr. R. Gopinath & Dr. K. Ugalechumi	
		Speakers
		Dr. Shenggen Fan Director General & Professor, Agricultural University, China
		Dr. Stanford Blade Deputy Director General-Research, ICRISAT, Hyderabad
		Dr. Bui Ba Bong Former Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Vietnam
		Dr. Jauhar Ali Principal Scientist and Hybrid Rice Breeding Lead at IRRI, Philippines
01.30 – 02.30 pm	Lunch	
02.30 – 04.00 pm	Session II	
<i>(Each speaker will be given 8-10 minutes maximum for presentation)</i>	Biodiversity for Food and Livelihood Security	
	Prof. M.S. Swaminathan believed that biodiversity is the foundation for ecological, economic and social security. He advocated for integrated management of biodiversity as key for ensuring ecological sustainability and social providence. Biodiversity conservation, strategies for sustainable utilization of intra and inter species diversity and associated ecosystems, promoting agroecological practices, and advanced science and technology methods for safeguarding and leveraging benefits of biodiversity and	

	natural resources for nutrition, health and livelihoods will be discussed in this session.
	Chair: Dr. Jagdish Krishnaswamy , Trustee - MSSRF
	Session Coordinators: Dr. E.D.I. Oliver King & Mr. Prashant Kumar Parida
	Rapporteurs: Mr. Girigan Gopi & Dr. D.J. Nithya
	Speakers
	Prof. Darshan Shankar Vice Chancellor, The University of Trans-Disciplinary Health Sciences and Technology, Bengaluru
	Dr. Yash Veer Bhatnagar Country Representative, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), New Delhi
	Dr. Carlo Fadda (Virtual) Director Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT Africa – Nairobi Hub, Kenya
	Dr. Ruchi Pant (Virtual) Head - Climate Adaptation, NRM and Biodiversity
	Dr. E.D.I. Oliver King Director – Biodiversity, MSSRF, Chennai
04.00 - 04.20 pm	Tea Break
04.20 – 05.50 pm	Session III
<i>(Each speaker will be given 8-10 minutes maximum for presentation)</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Empowering Women, Youth, Smallholder Farmers, Fishers and Tribal communities for Food Security, Nutrition and Health</p> <p>This session will lay special emphasis on uplifting women and youth especially from the marginalized sections. It will also deliberate the challenges faced by them and ensuring their participation in economic and social development. Further it will examine policies, programs, and initiatives aimed at empowering these section of society nationally.</p>
	Chair: Dr. Lindiwe Sibanda Chair, CGIAR System Board
	Co-Chair: Prof. Nitya Rao , Professor, Gender and Development University of East Anglia, UK
	Session Coordinators: Dr. V. Shakeela & Dr. Bharati Sahu
	Rapporteurs: Dr. C.M. Pratheepa & Ms. P.M. Jennifer
	Speakers
	Smt. Uma Mahadevan Dasgupta , IAS

		Additional Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Karnataka, Karnataka
		Dr. Nikita Gopal Chair of the Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries Section of the Asian Fisheries Society, and Division Head, ICAR-CIFT, Cochin
		Prof. Nitya Rao Professor, Gender and Development University of East Anglia, UK
		Ms. Vennila Sivakumar Director, Khabpcol, Kolli Hills, Tamil Nadu
		Dr. Vijayakumar Mani Co-Founder and Director, I support Farming, Chennai
06.00 - 06.30 pm	High Tea	

M S Swaminathan Global Leadership Award 2024

Award ceremony

06.30 pm	Invocation	<i>Tamizh Thai Vazhthu</i>
06.35 - 06.38 pm	Welcome	Dr. Madhura Swaminathan Professor and Head, Economic Analysis Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Bengaluru
06.39 - 06.45 pm	About the Award	Dr. M.J. Khan Chairman, The Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture, President, Agriculture Today Group, New Delhi
06.46 - 06.53pm	Felicitation	Dr. Soumya Swaminathan Chairperson, MSSRF, Chennai
06.54 - 07.00 pm	Felicitation	Thiru. P. Sathasivam Hon'ble Former Chief Justice of India & Former Governor of Kerala
07.00 - 07.05 pm	Introducing the Award Recipient and reading the citation	Dr. G.N. Hariharan Executive Director, R&D / Govt. Affairs, MSSRF, Chennai
07.06 - 07.10 pm	Award presentation	Thiru. R. Sakkarapani Hon'ble Minister for Food and Civil Supplies, Government of Tamil Nadu
07.11 - 07.20pm	Acceptance Speech	Dr. Lindiwe Sibanda Chair, CGIAR System Board, Switzerland

07.21 - 07.35 pm	Chief Guest's Address	Thiru. R. Sakkarapani Hon'ble Minister for Food and Civil Supplies, Government of Tamil Nadu
07.35 - 07.38 pm	Vote of Thanks	
07.39 - 07.44 pm		National Anthem
07.45 pm		Dinner

August 8, 2024 (DAY: 2) – Thursday

09.30 – 10.00 am	Chair: Dr. T. Ramasami Trustee, MSSRF	
	Lead Lecture: Dr. S. Somanath Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Bengaluru	
	Session Coordinator: Dr. G.N. Hariharan	
10.00 – 11.30 am	Session IV	
<i>(Each speaker will be given 8-10 minutes maximum for presentation)</i>	Integrated Coastal System Management for Strengthening Resilience and Equity	
	Coastal regions are highly vulnerable to climate change. The lives and livelihoods of coastal communities are often impacted due to natural disasters imposed by climate change. There are successful models nurtured by MSSRF with leadership of Prof M S Swaminathan over the last 30 years. The session will discuss about the current challenges in the coastal regions and deliberate on adaptation and mitigation pathways to combat impact of future climate vulnerabilities.	
	Chair: Prof. Ramesh Ramachandran Founder Director, National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), Chennai	
	Session Coordinator: Dr. R. Ramasubramanian & Dr. S. Velvizhi	
	Rapporteurs: Ms. N. A. Anbuwahini & Dr. S.N. Boopathy	
	Speakers	
	Dr. Arun Padiyar Panemangalore World Fish Lead-India, Odisha	
	Prof. Donald J. Macintosh (Virtual) Former IUCN-MFF Regional Co-ordinator, Centre for Tropical Ecosystems Research, University of Aarhus, Denmark	
	Dr. S. Velvizhi Area Director – Coastal Systems/ Fisheries, MSSRF, Chennai	

		Dr. Rupesh Bhomia (Virtual) Scientist, Center for International Forestry Research, Indonesia
		Ms. R. Meera SHG Member, Pichavaram, Tamil Nadu
11.30 – 11.50 am	Tea Break	
11.50 – 01.20 pm	Session V	
<i>(Each speaker will be given 8-10 minutes maximum for presentation)</i>	Climate Resilience, Policy and Practice	
	Prof Swaminathan championed efforts to develop climate-resilient crops and practices, recognizing the challenges posed by climate change. Several anticipatory, participatory, policy research programmes advocated by Prof Swaminathan will be discussed in the light of contemporary global and local challenges of climate. Discussions will revolve around policy and practice from the perspective of equity and climate justice.	
	Chair: Dr. P. Senthil Kumar, IAS Principal Secretary, Dept. of Environment, Climate change and Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Tamil Nadu	
	Co-Chair Prof. T. Jayaraman , Senior Fellow, MSSRF, Chennai	
	Session Coordinator: Mr. R. Goutham	
	Rapporteurs: Mr. Peeyush Priya & Mr. R. Goutham	
		Speakers
		Dr. Youba Sokona Former Vice-Chair, IPCC
		Dr. Madhura Swaminathan Professor and Head, Economic Analysis Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Bengaluru
		Dr. Purnamita Dasgupta Professor, Institute of Economic Growth, University of Delhi, New Delhi
		Mr. Aromar Revi Director, Indian Institute of Human Settlements (IIHS), Bengaluru
01.20 - 02.20 pm	Lunch	
02.20 - 03.50 pm	Session VI	
<i>(Each speaker will be given 8-10 minutes maximum for presentation)</i>	Technology and Innovation in Agriculture and Allied Sector	
	Prof Swaminathan was a pioneer in the use of modern technology in agriculture for ensuring food security. His foresighted vision for blend of traditional wisdom with frontier technology is novel. This session will identify suitable technologies to enhance agricultural productivity. The session will explore the role of cutting-edge technologies, including AI, precision agriculture, and biotechnology, in modern agriculture.	

	Chair: Dr. C. Chandramouli, Trustee, MSSRF
	Co-Chair: Dr. Usha Barwale Zehr, Director – Research, Barwale Foundation
	Session Coordinator: Dr. Gayatri Venkataraman & Mr. P. Manilal
	Rapporteurs: Dr. Rebecca Mathew & Dr. R. Murugan
	Speakers
	Dr. C. Viswanathan Joint Director – Research Indian Agricultural Research Institute New Delhi
	Mr. Motti Levin Group CEO, Haifa Group, Israel
	Dr. B.M. Prasanna Maize Program Director (GMP), CIMMYT, Kenya
	Dr. B. Ravindran Head, Department of Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (DSAI) & Robert Bosch Centre for Data Science and AI, IIT Madras, Chennai
	Ms. Kalaivani Rajendran Progressive Woman Farmer Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu
	Dr. R. Rengalakshmi Executive Director - Area Operations, MSSRF, Chennai
03.50 – 04.10 pm	Tea Break
04.10 – 05.20 pm	Session VII - Plenary Panel Discussion
	Evergreen Revolution for Achieving Sustainable Food and nutrition Security
	Prof Swaminathan’s vision for an evergreen revolution contributes to international and national goals such as SDGs, Climate and Biodiversity targets. This session will analyze policy frameworks and governance structure that are needed for inclusive and sustainable food security for all. The panelists will discuss how the visionary thoughts of Prof Swaminathan can guide national and international policies.
	Chair: Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Chairperson, MSSRF, Chennai
	Co-Chair: CGM SBI, Chennai
	Session Coordinator: Dr. G.N. Hariharan & Dr. N. Parasuraman
	Rapporteurs: Dr. D.J. Nithya & Mr. Girigan Gopi
	Speakers

		Dr. Lindiwe Sibanda Chair, CGIAR System Board
		Mr. B.V.R. Subramaniam, IAS (Virtual) CEO, NITI Aayog, New Delhi
		Dr. Elhadj As Sy (Virtual) Chair of the Board, Kofi Annan Foundation
		Prof. S. Mahendra Dev Former, Director, Indira Gandhi Institute for Development Research, New Delhi
05.20 – 05.30 pm	Vote of Thanks	Organizing Secretary
05.30 - 06.30 pm	High Tea	