

## Expertise of Plenary Keynote Speakers



**Rajendra Singh**

Rajendra Singh is a well-known water conservationist from Alwar district, Rajasthan in India. Also known as "waterman of India", he won the Stockholm Water Prize, an award known as "the Nobel Prize for water", in 2015. Previously, he won the Ramon Magsaysay Award for community leadership in 2001 for his pioneering work in community-based efforts in water harvesting and water management. He runs an NGO called 'Tarun Bharat Sangh' (TBS), which was founded in 1975. The NGO based in village Kishori-Bhikampura in Thanagazi tehsil, near Sariska Tiger Reserve, has been instrumental in fighting the slow bureaucracy, mining lobby and has helped villagers take charge of water management in their semi-arid area as it lies close to Thar Desert, through the use of johad, rainwater storage tanks, check dams and other time-tested as well as path-breaking techniques. Starting from a single village in 1985, over the years TBS helped build over 8,600 johads and other water conservation structures to collect rainwater for the dry seasons, has brought water back to over 1,000 villages and revived five rivers in Rajasthan, Arvari, Ruparel, Sarsa, Bhagani and Jahajwali.



**Bindu Lohani**

Dr. Lohani is currently Global Head of Climate Change Practice and Distinguished Fellow, Emerging Market Forum, Centennial Group, USA; Distinguished Fellow, Institute of Global Environment Strategies, Japan; Distinguished Adjunct Faculty and Board of Trustee member at AIT; Special Advisor for the Y-Port Centre; Networking among Cities and Private Firm, The City of Yokohama, Japan; Founding Member, Institute of water Policy, LKYSPP, Singapore, and External Sustainability Advisory Council Member, Ingersoll Rand, USA.

Dr. Lohani is elected member of the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) of United States for his work on economic-cum-environment approach to sustainable development. He is a Diplomate of the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and a licensed engineer. Dr. Lohani was elected to the rank of AAAS Fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Council for world leadership in development country planning for integrated economic-cum-environmental sustainable development through protection of natural/ social resources.



**Robert Costanza**

Professor Robert Costanza is a Vice Chancellor's Chair in Public Policy at the Crawford School of Public Policy at the Australian National University. He is also currently a Senior Fellow at the National Council on Science and the Environment in the US, a Senior Fellow at the Stockholm Resilience Center, an Affiliate Fellow at the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics, and a deTao Master of Ecological Economics at the deTao Masters Academy, China.

Professor Costanza's transdisciplinary research integrates the study of humans and the rest of nature to address research, policy and management issues at multiple time and space scales, from small watersheds to the global system. He is co-founder and past-president of the International Society for Ecological Economics, and was founding editor of the society's journal, Ecological Economics. He currently serves on the editorial board of ten other international academic journals. He is also founding editor in chief of Solutions ([www.thesolutionsjournal.org](http://www.thesolutionsjournal.org)) a unique hybrid academic/popular journal.

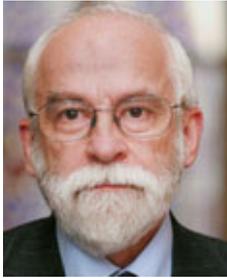
Professor Costanza is the author or co-author of over 600 scientific papers and 27 books. His work has been cited in more than 20,000 scientific articles and he has been named as one of ISI's Highly Cited Researchers since 2004. More than 300 interviews and reports on his work have appeared in various popular media and he has written over 60 articles for the popular press.



**Norbert Dichtl**

Since 1994, Dr.-Ing. Norbert Dichtl is Professor at the Technische Universität Braunschweig and head of the Institute of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering.

His specific work priorities lie in the area of engineering processes that deal with the pursuing cleaning of municipal and industrial wastewaters, the digestion and dewatering of sludge and sewage sludge. Particular attention is also devoted to research on processes dealing with biological, physical, and chemical wastewater treatment (municipal, industrial), simulation, and optimisation. Another key focus is the biogas production and reuse, anaerobic sludge treatment, wastewater reuse, and the sustainable environmental protection under the goals of the Agenda 21. He is author of more than 400 papers in peer-reviewed international and national journals.



**Janos Bogardi**

Janos J. Bogardi graduated in Civil Engineering with special emphasis on water resources and agricultural water resources development at the Technical University of Budapest, Hungary. After obtaining a post graduate Diploma on Hydrology from the University of Padua, Italy, he earned his PhD in Civil Engineering at the University of Karlsruhe, Germany. He was honoured to receive the title of 'Doctor Honoris Causa' from the Agricultural University of Warsaw, Poland, and the Technical University of Budapest. After his activities as Assistant Professor at the Institute for Water Resources Management of the Technical University of Budapest, his professional activities took him as scientific staff to the Federal Institute for Hydraulic Engineering in Karlsruhe, and the University of Karlsruhe, respectively. He alternated these posts with expert assignments for German consulting engineers in Darmstadt and Essen. In the following three years he was then seconded by the German Agency for Technical Co-operation (GTZ) to the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in Bangkok, Thailand. Subsequently he became professor for Hydraulics and General Hydrology at the Agricultural University of Wageningen, The Netherlands, for almost eight years.

Janos Bogardi's trajectory at the United Nations started at the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris, France, as Senior Programme Specialist and then Chief of the Section on Sustainable Water Resources and Management. In 2003 he was appointed Director of the United Nations Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) in Bonn. In 2007 he was assigned Vice-Rector a. i. of United Nations University in Europe. He has authored, co-authored, and edited more than 170 publications including books, journal papers, research reports, lecture notes, as well as numerous articles for the media.