

## **National Training Programme on “Audit of Blue Economy, Coastal Ecosystem, and Marine Pollution” (11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026)**

International Centre for Environment Audit and Sustainable Development (iCED) organised a National Training Programme on “Audit of Blue Economy, Coastal Ecosystem, and Marine Pollution” from 11th to 15th May 2026 at its campus in Jaipur. A total of 20 participants from 7 field offices of IA&AD including 07 Group Officers, participated in this programme.



**Group photo of National Training Programme on “Audit of Blue Economy, Coastal Ecosystem, and Marine Pollution”**

The programme commenced with the inaugural session addressed by Dr. Abhishek Gupta, Director General, iCED, Jaipur. In his inaugural address, he highlighted the growing importance of the Blue Economy in ensuring sustainable economic growth, environmental sustainability, and social inclusion. He also emphasized the need for effective management of coastal and marine ecosystems in view of challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, marine litter, and microplastic pollution. He further underlined the significant role of public sector auditing in promoting efficient resource utilization and environmental risk management.

During this five-day training programme, experts from IA&AD and reputed organizations including Ministry of Earth Sciences, Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR), Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications and Geoinformatics (BISAG-N), Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), and Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company (TNGCC) delivered sessions on various

aspects relating to Blue Economy, coastal ecosystem conservation, marine pollution, fisheries management, emerging technologies, and audit approaches for coastal and marine governance.

The programme also covered important themes such as government initiatives and policy frameworks for Blue Economy, technological advancements in ocean data management, Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) compliance, marine and coastal ecosystem conservation, marine litter and microplastics, sustainable fisheries management, and the role of emerging technologies in coastal conservation.

The session-wise details are outlined as follows:

S. No	Resource Person	Session/s
1.	Dr. Anil Kumar Vijayan, Scientist E, Centre for Marine Living Resources and Ecology (CMLRE), MoES, GoI, New Delhi	Overview of Blue Economy – Government Initiatives and Policy Framework for promoting Investment, Innovation and Sustainable Growth
2.	Dr. Sudheer Joseph, Scientist-G & Group Director, OMARS (INCOIS), Hyderabad	Technological Advancement in Blue Economy: Ocean Data Management, Modelling & Applied Aspects
3.	Prof. Ramesh Ramachandran, Advisor, Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company (TNGCC), Government of Tamil Nadu	Understanding Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ): Compliance, Challenges and Opportunities
4.	Dr. Nanda Dulal Das, Director, NAAA, Shimla	Auditing Marine and Coastal Eco-system Conservation Measures
5.	Dr. K. Ramu, Scientist E, NCCR, MoES, Government of India	Coastal Water Quality and Marine Pollution: Marine Litter & Micro Plastics
6.	Shri Kumar Sarthak, Project Manager, BISAG-N	Role of Emerging Technologies in Strengthening the Blue Economy and Coastal Conservation
7.	Dr. Ramachandran C., Principal Scientist, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi	Sustainable Development of Fishery Management & Recent Government Initiatives
8.	Shri Charles D Selwyn, Senior Audit Officer, PAG (Audit-II), Tamil Nadu & Puducherry	Overview of Coastal Ecosystem Conservation Measures: Audit Planning, Challenges and Opportunities

During the pre-valedictory session, four group presentations were delivered by the participants on the following topics:

1. Audit of Sustainable Coastal Development Measures
2. Auditing Marine Pollution and Water Quality Control Measures
3. Auditing of Compliance to Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Rules
4. Auditing Sustainability of Fishing with Special Focus on Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojna (PMMSY)

These presentations were structured to address recent developments, risk factors, audit objectives, audit criteria, scope and other key areas of auditing the assigned themes. The presentations were reviewed by the Director General, iCED.

The comprehensive feedback on course designing, duration of training programme and sessions, content, knowledge and its delivery by the resource persons and facilities available at iCED was collected from the participants to improve the upcoming programmes. The average feedback received was 9.19 out of 10, which is found to be encouraging. The session on “Auditing Marine and Coastal Eco-system Conservation Measures” delivered by Dr. Nanda Dulal Das, Director, NAAA, Shimla was rated as the best session with feedback of 9.77 out of 10.

The training ended with a valedictory address by Dr. Abhishek Gupta, Director General, iCED followed by vote of thanks to all faculty members, participants and the iCED team for their dedicated efforts in making the programme a success.