

# Global South Academic Conclave

## WASH and Climate 2026

6th – 7th February 2026, Ahmedabad

CWAS  
CRDF  
CEPT  
UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY  
OF PLANNING

Gates Foundation

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6<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> February 2026, Ahmedabad

### Draft Agenda

Time	Sessions
<b>DAY 1 – 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2026</b>	
8:00 – 9:00 CFP Passage	<b>Registration</b>
9:00 – 10:00 BNB Hall	<b>Inauguration and Welcome Address</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Meera Mehta and Dinesh Mehta, CWAS, CRDF-CEPT University, India</li><li>Dhruv Bhavsar and Aasim Mansuri, CWAS, CRDF-CEPT University, India</li><li>Shalini Sinha, Faculty of Planning-CEPT University, India</li><li>Barjor Mehta, CEPT University and CRDF, India</li><li>Sakshi Gudwani, Gates Foundation, India</li><li>Medje Prahm, Viega Foundation, Germany</li></ul>
10:00 – 10:45 BNB Hall	<b>Keynote Address 1- Neeta Pokhrel, ADB, Philippines</b> Introduction- Aasim Mansuri, CWAS, CRDF-CEPT University, India
10:45 – 11:15	<b>Tea and networking break</b>
11:15 – 12:15 BNB Hall	<b>Panel Discussion – Data driven actions and innovations for WASH and Climate Change</b> Moderator: Sakshi Gudwani, Gates Foundation, India <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Alejandro Jimenez, IVL, Sweden</li><li>Dinesh Mehta, CWAS, CRDF-CEPT University, India</li><li>Manvita Baradi, UMC, India</li><li>Martin Kalibbala, Kampala Water, Uganda</li><li>S.M. Vijayanand (Retd. IAS), India</li></ul>
12:15-13:00 BNB Hall	<b>Keynote Address 2 – Silver Mugisha, NWSC, Uganda</b> Introduction- Darshan Parikh, CRDF-CEPT University, India
13:00-14:00	<b>Lunch (South Lawn)</b>
14:00 – 15:00 BNB Hall	<b>Panel Discussion- Water, Climate and Gender</b> Moderator: Aasim Mansuri, CWAS, CRDF-CEPT University, India <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Bijal Brahmbhatt, MHT, India</li><li>Jane Nabunnya Mulumba, IRC, Uganda</li><li>Neeta Pokhrel, ADB, Philippines</li><li>Nitin Bassi, CEEW, India</li><li>Pallavi Sobti-Rajpal, Utthan, India</li></ul>
15:00-15:45 BNB Hall	<b>Keynote Address 3- Patrick Moriarty, IRC, Netherlands</b> Introduction- Dhruv Bhavsar, CWAS, CRDF-CEPT University, India
15:45-16:00	<b>Tea and networking break</b>

Time	Sessions				
16:00 – 17:30	<b>Technical Session 1</b> "Monitoring WASH outcomes and climate impacts" (BNB Hall) <b>Chaired by:</b> Nitika Bhakuni, FP CEPT	<b>Technical Session 2</b> "Governance and Financing for inclusive and climate resilient WASH" (FA 101a) <b>Chaired by:</b> Upasana Yadav, CWAS, CRDF-CEPT University	<b>Technical Session 3</b> "WASH innovations in technology and service delivery" (Sagara Basement) <b>Chaired by:</b> Jignesh Mehta, FP CEPT	<b>Technical Session 4</b> "WASH innovations in technology and service delivery" (FP Audi) <b>Chaired by:</b> Aditi Dwivedi, CWAS, CRDF-CEPT University	<b>Technical Session 5</b> "Inclusive and climate resilient WASH" (CFP 307) <b>Chaired by:</b> Melissa Smith, FP CEPT
17:30-19:00	<b>Partner Session 1</b> Sanitation for Climate Resilience and Inclusion: Securing Water Systems in a Changing Climate (Sagara Basement) <b>NFSSM and Climate Rise Alliance</b>	<b>Partner Session 2</b> Integrating Inclusion Aspects in Urban WASH Curriculum (FA 101a) <b>Global Sanitation Graduate School</b>	<b>Partner Session 3</b> Kutch Partners Meet: Advancing Last-Mile Access to Safe Drinking Water (CFP 307) <b>DASRA</b> (Closed room discussion)	<b>Partner Session 4</b> Women in Water and Sanitation: Leadership, Pathways and Practice (FP Audi) <b>ADB and CWAS</b>	
19:00 onwards	<b>Cultural program</b> (Kund) <b>and Gala Dinner</b> (South Lawn)				

## DAY 2- 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2026

8:00 – 9:00	<b>Tea and Networking</b>
9:00 – 9:15	<b>Reflections from Day 1</b>
9:15-10:00 Sagara Basement	<b>Keynote Address 4 – Aloka Majumdar, HSBC, India</b> Introduction- Dinesh Mehta, CRDF-CEPT University, India
10:00 – 11:00 Sagara Basement	<b>Panel Discussion - Governance and financing for climate resilient and inclusive WASH</b> Moderator: Dhruv Bhavsar, CWAS, CRDF-CEPT University, India <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aparna Dua, Blended Finance Company, India</li> <li>• Hamanth Kasan, IWA, South Africa</li> <li>• Harish Ahuja, Social Stock Exchange, India</li> <li>• Meera Mehta, CWAS, CRDF-CEPT University, India</li> <li>• Neha Kumar, Climate Bonds Initiative, India</li> </ul>
11:00-11:45 Sagara Basement	<b>Keynote Address 5- Osward Chanda, Former AfDB, Côte d'Ivoire</b> Introduction- Meera Mehta, CRDF-CEPT University, India
11:45-12:45 Sagara Basement	<b>Panel Discussion –Academic discourse on WASH climate and urban planning</b> Moderator: Mona Iyer, Faculty of Planning-CEPT, India <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jagath Munasinghe, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka</li> <li>• Kalimuthu Arumugam Pillai, WASHI, India</li> <li>• Meenakshi Arora, University of Melbourne, Australia</li> <li>• Rajul Gajjar, Gujarat Technological University, India</li> </ul>
12:45 – 13:45	<b>Lunch</b> (South Lawn)
13:45-14:30 Sagara Basement	<b>Keynote Address 6 –Kate Medicott, WHO, Switzerland</b> Introduction-Arwa Bharmal, CRDF-CEPT University, India

Time	Sessions				
14:30– 16:00	<b>Technical Session 1</b> "Monitoring WASH outcomes and climate impacts" (U04-201) <b>Chaired by:</b> <b>Anil Roy, FP CEPT</b>	<b>Technical Session 2</b> "Governance and Financing for inclusive and climate resilient WASH" (Sagara Basement) <b>Chaired by:</b> <b>Saswat Bandyopadhyay FP CEPT</b>	<b>Technical Session 3</b> "Governance and Financing for inclusive and climate resilient WASH" (FA-101a) <b>Chaired by:</b> <b>Rajiv Kadam, FP CEPT</b>	<b>Technical Session 4</b> "WASH innovations in technology and service delivery" (FP Audi) <b>Chaired by:</b> <b>Kasturi Joshi, CWAS-CEPT, CRDF</b>	<b>Technical Session 5</b> "Inclusive and climate resilient WASH" (CFP 307) <b>Chaired by:</b> <b>Ravi Sannabhadti, FP CEPT</b>
16:00-16:30	<b>Tea and networking break</b>				
16:30-18:00 North lawn	<b>Open poster exhibition – Open Academic Forum</b> <b>Jury Members:</b> <b>Arjun Joshi, Gargi Mishra, Mansi Shah , Narendra Mangwani, Siddh Doshi, Subhrangsu Goswami</b>				
18:00-18:30 Sagara Basement	<b>Concluding Session– Vote of Thanks</b>				

As on 05/02/2026 v23\*