Workshop on Water Resource Management for students held today

TERI University and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) organized the Regional Consultative Workshop of the 'Inter-University Competition on Water Resources Management’ programme. It is being supported by Robert Bosch Stiftung, WAPCOS, USAID, GOI and Coca Cola.

Delhi, 9 September 2015: TERI University and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) today organized the ‘Inter-University Competition on Water Resources Management’ programme for students at the undergraduate level in the age group of 17-22 years.

The programme essentially follows a competition mode, which will run along sub-national lines, providing an opportunity to students from all parts of India to participate. The programme will engage students to develop a multi-stakeholder, evidence-based, participative and practically implementable “Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Proposal”.

Speaking at the occasion, Mr Rohit Kakkar, Dy Advisor (PHE), Ministry of Urban Development, said, “We are delighted to partner with USAID for the Swacch Bharat Mission. I am glad to learn about this unique initiative by TERI and TERI University. I am confident that the youth will enthusiastically participate in these activities, and will come up with innovative ideas that can be put to action”

Mr Anand Rudra, Senior Project Management Specialist (Water & Sanitation), USAID India said, “We are delighted to have associated with TERI and TERI University for this unique initiative under the USAID wash alliance involving public/private partnerships. Youths are a hub of ideas, and have immense potential to contribute to the society with a sense of purpose. They are both contributors and receivers of technology. We need to see how they can meaningfully contribute to Swacch Bharat Mission, and conceptualize and implement innovative ideas for a sustainable future”

Dr Rajiv Seth, Pro Vice Chancellor, TERI University said, “The involvement of youth in finding solutions to issues that we face today is paramount. This national competition on Water Resources Management has tried to instill a sense of systematic approach to finding solutions which would not just benefit society but would also be sustainable”

Ms Ranjana Saikia, Director, Educating Youth for Sustainable Development, TERI said, “Youth across the globe possess skills and creativity required to solve diverse environmental problems. We have initiated the 'Inter-University Competition on Water Resources Management', engaging undergraduate students across India to ideate pragmatic and sustainable Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) proposals to combat the problems related to water and sanitation.”
The key objectives of the programme is to create awareness on water and sanitation challenges and an ownership of solutions at a wider stakeholder level; encourage a systemic, multi-disciplinary approach to understanding and solving water and sanitation problems; engage academia and students with local communities, governments and other stakeholders and encourage local governments to mobilize research expertise of local universities for evidence generation.

The launch of the initiative was held in Kolkata last month. The clusters/cities identified are as follows: Kolkata, Delhi, Jalandhar, Goa and Cochin. The five regional competitions will result in the selection of two teams per cluster by a Regional Jury comprising of local water and sanitation experts and faculty members from TERI University. The teams will be accessed based on the following: Innovativeness, Completeness, Implementability, Ownership, and Viability. The winners of the regional competition will participate in the national competition in January 2016.

ABOUT TERI UNIVERSITY:

TERI University was set up in 1998 and was granted deemed-to-be-university status by the University Grants Commission in 1999. The University transcends the traditional teaching and its courses attract students from various fields like sciences, economics, geography, engineering that has allowed a concoction of various perspectives into the curriculum, which provides a holistic approach to their study. Being one of the very few universities which are devoted to areas related to sustainable development, the University has partnered with several leading universities of USA, UK and Australia that has created a platform for an exchange of ideas, knowledge and research for both the faculty and students. Keeping the environmental challenges of the 21st century in mind, today the University offers 11 master's level programmes - 5 M Sc, 2 MA, 2 M Tech and 2 MBA besides its prestigious doctoral programmes.

Accredited with an ‘A’ grade by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council of India (NAAC), the University has received accolades for incorporating new and innovative elements in education. For more information, please click: http://www.teriuniversity.ac.in/

ABOUT TERI:

TERI is an independent, not-for-profit research institute focused on energy, environment, and sustainable development and devoted to efficient and sustainable use of natural resources. Since its inception in 1974, TERI has emerged as an institution of excellence for its path-breaking research, and is a global brand widely respected by political leaders, policy makers, corporate entities as well as the civil society at large.

COCA-COLA DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL WATER STUDIES

TERI University, devoted to education for sustainable development and the Coca-Cola Company, committed to invest its resources to maintain vibrant and sustainable communities, have come together to respond to challenges that we face in managing water at research, education and policy advocacy levels by institutionalizing the Coca-Cola Department of Regional Water Studies. The department will play a leading role in developing an international cadre of development professionals (fresh and mid-career), well-equipped to tackle, beyond cultural boundaries and across sectoral divisions, the interwoven challenges of water sustainability. It will also undertake to
influence, through the independent policy and action research carried out in the University, the scientific management of water resources in the country and beyond.

ABOUT USAID:

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) works to end extreme poverty and promote resilient, democratic societies. USAID is an independent government agency that provides economic, development, and humanitarian assistance around the world in support of the foreign policy goals of the United States. Leveraging India’s growing financial and human resources, USAID is harnessing the strengths and capabilities of both countries to tackle development challenges not only in India, but worldwide. This approach to development is built on leveraging the expertise, innovations, and resources of the United States and India to tackle the most pressing challenges of our day, from infectious diseases to food security and climate change. USAID partners with India to address these and other challenges through the U.S. Government’s Feed the Future, Global Health, and Global Climate Change initiatives. In all sectors of its activities, USAID builds private sector partnerships to foster in-country sustainability and ownership, with a focus on issues such as health, urban water and sanitation, food security, climate change, early grade reading, and women’s empowerment as a cross-cutting issue.

About Coca-Cola and Citizenship

The Coca-Cola Company has always placed high value on good citizenship. At the heart of business is a mission statement called the Coca-Cola Promise — “The Coca-Cola Company exists to benefit and refresh everyone that it touches.” This basic proposition means that the company’s business should refresh the markets, protect, preserve and enhance the environment and strengthen the community. Coca-Cola India provides extensive support for community programmes across the country, with a focus on education, health and water conservation. For further information on Company’s India operations and its products, please visit www.coca-colaindia.com

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