

GNLU PRESS NOTE No. 55/2020

TRAIN-THE-TRAINERS Programme for strengthening the capacity of environmental and climate change law teachers from November 22 to 28, 2020

Gandhinagar, November 22, 2020: TRAIN-THE-TRAINERS Programme for strengthening the capacity of environmental and climate change law teachers has been organized by Gujarat National Law University (GNLU) in collaboration with the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), Asian Development Bank and Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) from November 22 to 28, 2020.

Justice Swatanter Kumar, Ex Chairperson, National Green Tribunal (NGT) presided over the inaugural session as the Chief Guest. Other dignitaries present at the inaugural session included Ms Christina Pak , Principal Counsel, ADB, Dr Georgina Lloyd , Asia and the Pacific Office of the UNEP at Bangkok, Mr Matthew Baird , an eminent Climate Change Lawyer from Australia, who is also the Consultant with ADB, Dr Nupur Chowdhury, Assistant Professor of Law at JNU, Mr Shyam Divan , Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India, Atty. Rose-Liza Eisma-Osorio, University of Cebu, Prof. Amanda Kennedy, Queensland University of Technology and Dr S. Shanthakumar, Director, GNLU.

In his inaugural address, Justice Swatanter Kumar said that Environmental Law teachers need to bridge the gap between theory and practice and added that this gap can be bridged if the education has more practical knowledge. He stressed the need for a practice-oriented method of teaching and said, “the book-oriented method of teaching induces the students to use their laptops, rather than their minds, to figure out solutions”.

Mr Shyam Divan discussed the challenges faced in evolving a proper regime on Environmental Law. He added that ‘the candidates are having a treat over the week-long program on Environmental Law which is taught by the experts across the globe’.

In his welcome address, GNLU Director Dr Shanthakumar said that capacity-building of environmental law professors is very crucial for sustainable development as their students will become future policymakers, legislators, environmental defenders, judges, etc. and will eventually influence policies governing the use and management of natural resources. He hoped that “through this programme, we will be able to create a network of Environmental Law teachers who would continue to interact after this Program to attain its objective as envisioned by ADB.”

The objective of this program is to develop a strong capacity for effective environmental governance in the country by building environmental and climate law expertise, knowledge, and



Gujarat National Law University

Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India

networks in the region. It also aims to improve the implementation, compliance, and enforcement of environmental laws and standards.

The week-long programme will cover diverse topics such as Pollution Control Regulation, Regulation of Forests and Biodiversity, Environmental Law in Asia, Teaching Environmental Law in the Next Decade, Designing an Environmental Law Clinic and Environmental Law in the Anthropocene, Nature Conservation in India and Lessons for Teaching in the New Age. It will also have a Syllabus Review Workshop and presentation of new research.

The organizers have selected only 30 participants out of many law professors, who applied, based on their SOP, publications in peer-reviewed journals and paper presentations in national and international conferences.

Media Contact:

Ashok Shah

Email: ashah@gnlu.ac.in, ashokshah.iima@gmail.com

Mobile: 9909960240, 8849110049