



**SAVE THE WESTERN GHATS
CONCLAVE 2012
'PRACTITIONERS'
CONCLAVE'**

THE WESTERN GHATS: A RETROSPECTIVE UNDERSTANDING

SLOT: 9 AM TO 11 AM DAY 1

FORMAT: PANEL DISCUSSION

This session will kick start the conclave by bringing into perspective the various issues that are plaguing the Western Ghats. There shall be a discussion covering the changes in the ecological and developmental situation of the Western Ghats in the 25 year interim between the SWG March of 1987/88 and the present day. Retrospectively, the four themes identified by the conclave will be laid down in this session and the cross cutting issues will be discussed.

The four broad themes identified for the Conclave are:

- How do we stabilize growing demand for natural resources?
- What are the ways and means to prevent further degradation of ecosystems and their services?
- How to bring in diversity and improve stakeholders' engagement?
- How to strengthen partnerships within CSOs and rejuvenate the spirit of civil society for its increased participation in and delivering just environmental decision making?

The ecological evidence and the developmental changes will be explained in terms of the major challenges like stabilizing growing demand for natural resources, the urgency in stopping the degradation of the ecosystem, improving stake holders' participation in this conservation and bringing in more cooperation between various civil society organizations to meet this challenge.



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This session shall serve the purpose of setting the platform for the events of the next two days by informing the audience of the challenge in hand and the way the conclave can meet these challenges.