



CONCEPT NOTE AND AGENDA

Weighing 10 Years of District Mineral Foundation

Achievements, Challenges, and the Way Forward

1. Overview

The District Mineral Foundation (DMF) was established under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015, to work for the interest and benefit of people and areas affected by mining operations.

Over the past decade, contributions from mining companies and entities operating across various districts have led to the accrual of over ₹100,000 crore in DMF funds. To date, approximately 62% of these funds have been spent on developmental and welfare projects in mining-affected districts. The fund holds immense potential for localized interventions to improve livelihoods and living conditions in economically disadvantaged mining regions.

As India plans to increase mineral production to support economic growth and energy security, DMF presents a crucial opportunity for sustainable development. Additionally, while DMF funds may continue to grow nationally, coal-dependent districts face an impending decline in DMF inflows due to resource depletion and the transition to a low-carbon economy.

This webinar will reflect on the impact of DMF, highlight key achievements, discuss some of the implementation challenges, and explore pathways for better governance, fund utilization, and long-term sustainability. The event will feature a presentation on the findings of an independent assessment conducted by iFOREST, followed by panel discussions with key stakeholders, including government representatives, civil society members, and industry leaders.

2. Date, time and platform

Dates: **March 25**

Time: **3:00-5:15 pm (IST)**

Format: **Virtual- Webinar through Zoom**

3. Programme Agenda

Session	Time	Guests/Speakers
Welcoming of Guests and Introduction to the Webinar	3:00- 3:05 pm	iFOREST
Opening session	3:05-3:10 pm	Address by Dr. Chandra Bhushan , CEO iFOREST
	3:10-3:20 pm	Presentation by Dr. Srestha Banerjee , Director Just Transition, iFOREST on Key findings on the impact of DMF
	3:20-3:45 pm	ADDRESS BY SPECIAL GUESTS Shri Dinesh Mahur , Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India Shri Arava Rajkamal , IAS, Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand Moderated Q&A: Dr. Chandra Bhushan , CEO, iFOREST
Panel I- DMF implementation and governance issues	3:45-4:30 pm	SPEAKERS Shri Kuldeep Chaudhary (IAS), Deputy Commissioner, West Singhbhum, Government of Jharkhand Shri Manoj Satyawar Mahajan (IAS), Collector & District Magistrate, Sundargarh, Odisha Shri Braja Kishore Pradhan , MLA, Talcher, Odisha Shri Tuleshwar Hira Singh Markam , MLA, Korba, Chhattisgarh Moderated by: Mandvi Singh , Director, Programmes, iFOREST <i>The session will have the opening address by each speaker (5 minutes each); followed by a moderated discussion (20 minutes), and Q&A from the audience</i>
Panel II- Voices from the ground	4:30-5:15 pm	SPEAKERS Shri Ramesh Sharma , National Coordinator, Ekta Parishad Shri Saroj Mahapatra , Executive Director, Professional Assistance for Development Action (PRADAN) Shri Shibanand Rath , State Manager, Ekjut Smt. Swapna Sarangi , Head, Gender Diversity and Integration, Foundation for Ecological Security Moderated by: Dr. Srestha Banerjee , Director, Just Transition, iFOREST <i>The session will have the opening address by each speaker (5 minutes each); followed by a moderated discussion (20 minutes), and Q&A from the audience</i>
Closing Remarks	5:15 PM	iFOREST