

CONCEPT NOTE AND AGENDA

Title/Event Name: Release of Ratnagiri District Development cum Climate Action Plan

Date: February 24th, 2026

Type of Event: Report release

Duration: from 3:00 PM

Location: Ratnagiri

Context

Ratnagiri district faces increasing climate risks, including extreme rainfall, flooding, coastal erosion and impacts on key livelihoods such as agriculture, fisheries, and horticulture. At the same time, the district has significant natural assets, biodiversity, and economic potential. To address development and climate challenges in an integrated manner, iFOREST has prepared a District Development–cum–Climate Action Plan (DDCAP) for Ratnagiri. The plan aligns district development priorities with climate resilience and low-carbon pathways, ensuring that climate action is practical, locally relevant, and implementable.

The meeting is being organised to formally release the Ratnagiri DDCAP and to present its key findings, priority actions, and implementation framework to district-level stakeholders. The aim is to build a shared understanding of climate risks and development opportunities in Ratnagiri and to facilitate ownership of the plan among government departments and local institutions.

Objective

- To formally release the Ratnagiri District Development–cum–Climate Action Plan and highlight its relevance for district planning.
- To present priority sectoral actions for climate-resilient and sustainable development in Ratnagiri.
- To discuss institutional roles, convergence opportunities, and implementation of pathways at the district level.
- To seek on-ground inputs to strengthen ownership and operationalisation of the plan.

PROGRAMME AGENDA

Session	Time	Guests / Speakers
Welcoming of Guests and context setting	3:00 – 3:15 PM	<p>Welcome and opening of the programme <i>iFOREST</i></p> <p>Dr. Srestha Banerjee, Director – Just Transition & Climate Change, <i>iFOREST</i></p>
Presentation on Report	3:15 – 3:30 PM	<p>Presentation on key findings, climate risks, priority sectors, and recommended actions under the plan</p> <p>Dr. Sindhuja Kasthala, Senior Programme Associate– Just Transition & Climate Change, <i>iFOREST</i></p>
Observations from Officials	3:30 – 3:50 PM	<p>Shri Ajay Suryawanshi, District Disaster Management Officer, Ratnagiri District, Government of Maharashtra</p> <p>Shri Shivkumar Sadaphule, District Agriculture Officer, Ratnagiri District, Government of Maharashtra</p> <p>Shri Chandrakant Suryawanshi, Resident Deputy Collector, Ratnagiri District, Government of Maharashtra</p>
Release of Report	3:50 – 4:00 PM	<p><i>Release of the Ratnagiri District Climate Action Report</i></p>
Special addresses	4:00 – 4:40 PM	<p>Address by Honorable Special Guests:</p> <p>Shri Abhijit Ghorpade, Director, State Climate Cell, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Government of Maharashtra</p> <p>Smt Vaidehi Rande, IAS, CEO Zilla Parishad, Ratnagiri District, Government of Maharashtra</p> <p>Shri Manuj Jindal, IAS, District Collector and District Magistrate, Ratnagiri District, Government of Maharashtra</p>

		<p>Address by Honorable Chief Guest:</p> <p>Honorable Dr. Uday Samant, Minister, Industries and Marathi Language, Government of Maharashtra; Guardian Minister, Ratnagiri District, Government of Maharashtra</p>
Open floor	4:40 – 5:00 PM	Observations from participants
Closing Remarks & Way Forward	5:00 – 5:15 PM	Reflections on the discussion and the way forward <i>iFOREST</i>