

BALIPARA FOUNDATION

Assam • India

SAVE THE DATE

12TH

**EASTERN HIMALAYAN
NATURENOMICS™ FORUM**

26th - 27th November 2024

Guwahati, Assam, India

Join us on a
transformative journey for

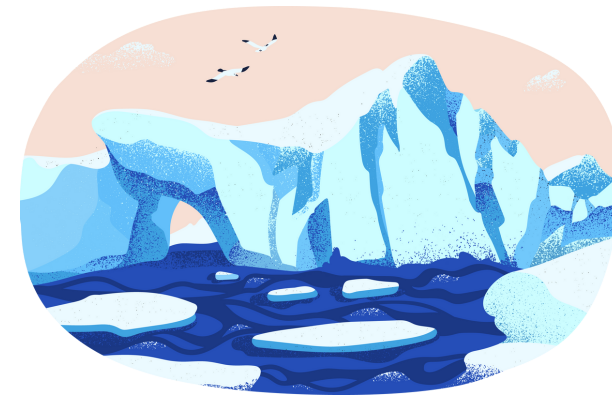
THE FUTURE OF THE

THIRD POLE

AND

HIMSAGAR
(Eastern Himalaya)

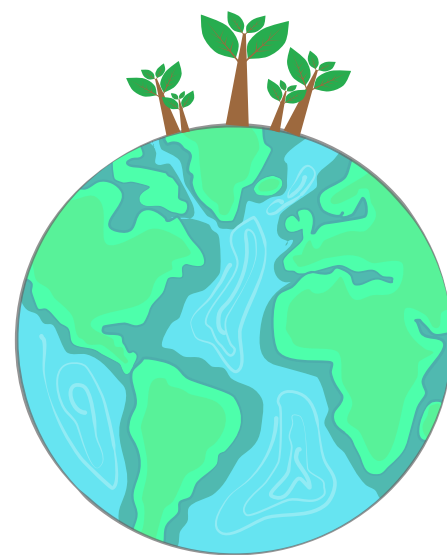
WHY IS THE THIRD POLE VITAL FOR THE HIMSAGAR?



The **Third Pole's** glaciers and snowpack play a vital role as **water sources for millions in the Eastern Himalaya**. These resources feed rivers essential for drinking, agriculture, and hydropower. Supporting **10 major river systems**, they sustain over **3 billion people** in Asia, representing more than 24% of the world's population.



The Third Pole's glaciers and water reservoirs are crucial for preserving the Eastern Himalayan region's ecosystems and **providing habitat for over 5000 plants and animals**. For instance, Red Pandas primarily inhabit bamboo-filled temperate forests in the Himalayan foothills, which depend on water from the Third Pole. **Any disruption to this water supply, like decreased glacier melt caused by climate change, could lead to habitat loss for Red Pandas.**



The Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna (GBM) Basin, originating from the Himalayas, serves as a **vital water source** for India, China, Nepal, Bhutan, and Bangladesh, supporting agriculture, industry, and livelihoods. Despite challenges like water scarcity and pollution, collaborative efforts through organizations like SAARC and the BCIM Forum **promote dialogue on water management, flood control, and environmental upgradation**. These initiatives exemplify how the Third Pole's water resources **foster regional cooperation**, transcending borders for mutual benefit.

The **Himsagar** (Eastern Himalaya) located within the vast region stretching **from the Pamir Mountains, covering the Indo-Malayan realm to the Indian Ocean**, plays a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance and showcasing rich forest diversity.





- Inspiring keynote leadership addresses will be delivered, drawing participation from **Her Majesty Queen Diambi Kabatusuila**, Traditional Queen of the Bakwa Luntu tribe of Central Kasai in the historic Kingdom of Luba; **Corneille Ewango**, *Botanist, Congo* Basin; **Mark Davies**, Oxford *Historian*, UK; **Ane Alencer**, Director of Science, *Amazon* Environmental Research Institute (IPAM); **Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern**, Former Prime Minister of New Zealand, **Ambassador Eric Michael Gracetti**, US Ambassador in India, **Marcello Kamaiura**, *Indigenous* Leader; **Dr. Kalachand Sain**, Head of the Wadia Institute of *Himalayan Geology*; Padmashri **Dr. Eklabya Sharma**, *Ecologist*, Strategic Advisor & Distinguished Fellow; **Pema Gyamtsho**, Director General, ICIMOD; His Excellency Dr. Lobsang Sangay, Professor at Harvard University; **Ramesh Bhushal**, Environment Journalist at *The Third Pole*; **Prof. Tandong Yao**, *Glaciologist*, Honorary Director of the Institute of Tibetan Plateau Research; **Dr. Kamal Bawa**, Founder of ATREE; **Prof. Jianchu Xu**, Kunming University; **Joydip Kundu** from *Sunderbans*; **Amar Bhattacharya**, Senior Fellow in the Center for *Sustainable Development*; and **Dr. Valerie Masson-Delmotte**, Co-Chair of Working Group I, IPCC. Representatives from universities such as Yale University, University of Berlin, University of California, and University of Iceland, as well as from *Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, India's Northeastern States*, and various *multilateral and bilateral organizations - United Nations, Association of Southeast Asian Nations*, to name a few

- An in-depth look at the Third Pole region will highlight its key role in ecology and water resource management. The program will cover energy, nature valuation, land forestry, and environmental topics, along with workshops on Green AI, sustainable digital transformation, and youth engagement for sustainability.
- The program will center around case studies showcasing tangible progress in **community-driven conservation efforts**. It will emphasize the interconnectedness of various disciplines within the ecological value chain, such as **botany, zoology, geology, anthropology, economics, history, geography**, and beyond.
- **Exhibition** showcasing latest innovations, products and solutions from the communities and corporates.
- The other vertical of the Forum - **Balipara Foundation Awards 2024** will be hosted on 27th November 2024. For more details, visit - <https://baliparafoundation.com/balipara-foundation-awards/>

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The program is evolutionary, and it will be further updated.

For participation, please write to us at ehnf@baliparafoundation.com

