



Some major initiatives on conservation of water and land resources reflecting mitigation and adaptation goals justified the appropriateness of the framework and the scope defined in the first edition of the award. This has infused and confidence and the fond hope to encounter a much larger number of such initiatives this time around.

Award Category:

Community based Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change with respect to Water Resources; Land Use, Land Use - Change & Forestry. Some of the evidences the award process will look for, include clear improvement in the quality and quantity of water and land resources and related forestry activities, implementation of such practices which will ensure sustained access to resources without harming the nature of eco-system service provided by the parcel of land or the water resource under consideration. It is well known that aspects of conservation, preventive environmental management and related economic benefits are interrelated; therefore calling for evidences of sustainability in the action being considered for the award. The direct link between the water and land systems is also recognized in this context.

A well-defined technical framework has been the basis for developing the questionnaire presented as part of this pack. You will notice that the information you present will help understand the spread and depth of empirical evidences generated by your work in the management and conservation of water and land resources of direct relevance and help understand mitigation and adaptation impacts. We therefore invite you to present all relevant information with utmost diligence. Importantly, several experts association with the evaluation of your inputs will visit the site of action you quote to help understand the significance of your work better. You are therefore encouraged to present precise and verifiable information in order to justify the award process.

Your participation will reflect your preparedness to be a part of real life action to help tackle problems posed by climate change emphatically. You may like to know that the excellence your work will signify will help several other stakeholders facing similar problems know about the information and technical resource you have so that they can interact with you to derive the benefits of your expertise; should your work be finally succeed in receiving the award. This is therefore a call for action and support to sustain action.

The Earth Care Award is unique and is aimed at highlighting action of direct relevance to India to tackle challenges posed by climate change. The award is for excellence in climate change mitigation and adaptation. This is in response to the recently growing consciousness about issues associated with climate change and that it is important to identify and foster locally evolved options to reduce emissions, approaches to protect land and water resources and other innovations for reducing impacts, emphasizing appropriate environmental action.

Mitigation in this context refers to reduction of impacts. Adaptation refers to the development and establishment of mechanisms / practices which enhance the ability of the water and land systems under consideration and the people associated with it to cope with the changing scale and diversity of pressures exerted through climate change.

The present first edition of the award will focus on three important areas, signifying action by industries, collaborative action by industry and community and by individuals covering a wide range of stakeholders.

Eligibility:

- Govt./Private Organization; Non Governmental Organization (NGOs); Community based Organizations (CBOs); Self Helped Groups (SHGs); Local Community Groups (Joint Forest Management, Water Users Associations);



- Organizations or parts of organizations (self accounting profit centers) in the private and public sector supported by multilateral / bilateral agencies are invited to apply making use of the questionnaire presented.
- The project / activity reported should have been conceptualized, and implemented during the period from April 2000 to March 2008 with proven results.
- The operations of the applicant must be carried out independently, meaning that responsibilities, authorities, results, etc. are clearly defined. This must be documented, for example, in the annual report, organization plan or its equivalent.

Selection Criteria:

The judges will assess the performance of each applicant making use of the selection criteria to identify initiatives which exhibit excellence including some important principles of best practice and continual improvement. These should be clearly seen in terms of :

- Benefits to community
- Mitigation of GHG Emissions
- Social and community development
- Sustainability
- Water, land and Forestry resources management
- Improvement of ecosystem and community health, sustained ecosystem services including biodiversity and public safety.

Judging process:

- Information provided in this application form will be reviewed by a team of technical experts to shortlist applications in each award category.
- The short-listed applications will be additionally reviewed by the judging panel to further shortlist for the final consideration.
- The selected applicants will be audited onsite by the technical team for verification of details provided.
- The finalists will be invited to present their cases before the panel of judges to decide the winners.

How to apply:

- Three copies of the application form should be submitted along with a soft copy on a compact disc (CD).
- The application form should be neatly typed with minimum font size 10 pt. on both side of A-4 size paper in English.
- It should include filled application form along with the support documents.

Some of the important aspects which can be considered include:

- Water Resource management with reference to
 - The quality, quantity & accessibility of water resources for individual as well as community



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- Physical tools & techniques to tackle climate change problems
 - Specific parameters considered / concerned
 - Institutional measures for sustained action
 - Health issues prevailing and expected level of improvement
 - Harvesting measures adopted
 - Issues of protection of biodiversity and the maintenance of ecological processes within water environment
 - Support from authorities involved in mgmt of water resources and protection
 - Impacts on Hydrologic system
 - Impacts on region water resources
 - Evidence of temperature, salinity, wind velocity and hydrologic trends
 - Implications of Climate Change for managed water resource system
 - Ecological Impacts
 - Socioeconomic costs of extreme hydrological events
 - Socioeconomic costs of changes in water supply and demand
 - Adapting to changing supply and demand conditions (Pressure on water resources, adaptation
 - Long term water management strategy
 - Flood management
 - Drought plans & water management plans
 - Collapse of water system leading to extreme long term shortage of water
 - Water scarcity that retards progress on MDGs and threatens food security
 - Reallocations of water
 - More frequent and greater loss of life, infrastructure damage, displacement of population and disruption of economic activities
 - Improvement in tourism related income, export earnings and jobs
 - Changes to coastal ecosystems and their services and resulting impacts on fishing livelihoods
 - Diminishing and less reliable water supply
 - Modest acceleration of coastal erosion and modest infrastructure damage
 - More frequent geographically widespread and sustained epidemics of infectious and waterborne disease with high human mortality.
- Land Use and Land Use Change Forestry (LULUCF)
- Status prior to intervention (specifically in terms of flood area / dry soil fragmenting / erosion / crops not suitable to soil / diminish productivity / pests / uneconomical agriculture and forestry etc.) (Desertification, Deforestation, Salinization, Compaction)
 - Appropriate land use measures for the specified land
 - Natural Resource extraction measures and their impact in the area?
 - Status of water quality and quantity
 - Widespread desertification of lands with irreversible changes to soil structure or nutrient status
 - Widespread but reversible desertification of lands
 - Land degradation of limited geographic extent that is irreversible
 - Localized but reversible land degradation
 - Collapse or loss of entire ecosystem and extinction of many of the system's species
 - Species loss and retrogressive succession
 - Species loss and change in habitat compositional structure
 - Genetic loss
 - Loss of genetic variability, loss of sub-species and varieties.

You are therefore requested to provide relevant and maximum information with respect to any of the parameters directly related to your work.



Application to be sent to:

All entries should be addressed to

JSW Steel Limited

Victoria House, Pandurang Budhkar

Lower Parel, Mumbai – 400 013

Contact person: Mr. Mukund Gorakshkar

PHONE NO: 022 24917947

Confidentiality: All information provided in the entry form will be treated in the strictest confidence. It will be used solely for the purpose of judging. Applicants will be consulted in case it is wished to use some material for future publicity purposes or for development of case studies.

Terms and conditions:

- Entries which do not match the required criteria will not be considered.
- No correspondence would be entertained regarding the selection or the selection procedure.
- Materials submitted for consideration of the award are non-returnable.
- Applications without sufficient supporting documents/ proof/evidence of work done would not be placed before the Award Committee.
- The Awards committee reserves the right, for on ground verification of the work claimed by the applicant.
- The organizers of the awards will not be responsible for any damage and non-receipt / late receipt of any material.
- Awards Committee reserves the right to award more than one as the winner and also to withhold awards, if the required standard is not met.
- An award winner is entitled to use award logo for their required purpose and can not apply for the past three years.
- The deliberations of the judging panel remain confidential. All recommendations and decisions taken are binding and final and no correspondence will be entered into on such matters.

Note: August 15th, 2009 is the final date for receipt of the applications.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Award Category:

Community led action on Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change with respect to Water Resources, Land Use, Land Use Change & Forestry

PART – A: GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of Organization: _____

• Location of project : _____

• Office : _____

• Contact Person : _____



- d. Please refer to some of the important indicators of change including the status prior to and after the intervention highlighting:
1. No. of wells; Dist. Travel to bring drinking water; Water availability under adverse conditions; Quality of water; Fodder availability; Firewood; Cropping pattern; Income per hectare; Migration; Flood & Drought prevention; Income per family in the case of water resources
 2. Non Timber Forest Values (NTFV); Forest Productivity; Infestation & Diseases; Biodiversity; Forest Practices; Forest Fires; Flood area; Dry soil fragmenting; Erosion; Crops not suitable to soil; Diminish productivity; Uneconomical agriculture in the case of forestry and
 3. Improvements in landscape physical features; Nutrient profiles; Yield characteristics in the case of land resources.
 4. Process of implementation and refer to
 - use of locally available materials and expertise
 - inputs from outside the local area
- e. Significance of activity : new knowledge created.
- f. What significant environmental gains, the project/activity aims to achieve beyond the present status?
- g. Does your project/activity lead to generation / uplift of livelihood, health and overall environmental quality of the area, if yes, describe in brief. (strategies for sustainability)
- h. Has your project/activity undergone any evaluation / testing/monitoring by an independent agency? If yes, please provide details.
- i. Do you foresee potential of replication of your activity, if yes; suggest ways to achieve it.
- j. Nature of support received to undertake the activities.
 - Govt./community
 - Technical assistance
 - Financial
- k. State any specific limitations which interfere with achieving the project objectives.
- m. What are the areas; you feel where more needs to be done (information support and technical assistance) to improve the results achieved?



Section II: Social Commitment

- a. State your organization/institution's mission, vision, values, codes of conduct, and principles relevant to economic, environmental and social performance?
- b. Organization's approach to address community / stakeholder concerns. (Success of the project / program / action in increasing community awareness and target objectives; community's acceptance, support & direct involvement, media support and coverage, publications, recognition & award)
- c. How do you perceive the present climate challenge / environmental issues with respect to adaptation needs, in the areas of your operation?