

**SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES  
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY**

Cordially invites you to the following talk

**Wetlands and why they matter now more than ever in  
Agenda 2030**

**Dr. Musonda MUMBA  
Secretary General  
Convention on Wetlands**



**30<sup>th</sup> January 2024 (Tuesday) 3:30pm**

Amrita Devi Bishnoi Seminar Hall, SES.

**Abstract:** Wetland ecosystems have for the longest been treated either as wastelands or spaces for over exploitation to levels of terrible degradation. Science alongside traditional knowledge systems have not only shown why they are important for cultural values but cut across social, economic and environmental benefits. The world is losing wetlands three times faster than forest ecosystems. As we draw near to the end of the Agenda 2030 and with the current climate related disasters, extreme weather events, pollution and also loss of biological diversity (triple planetary crisis), the relevance of the Convention on Wetlands has been further cemented. The convention, founded on 1971, is the oldest and most experienced Multilateral Environmental Agreement (MEA) older than the three Rio Conventions focused on – Climate, Biodiversity and Desertification. In this keynote I will share insight on why the adage for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) “Leave no one behind” matters now more than ever. I will also demonstrate the intersectionality of wetlands and why we need not address their conservation, management and restoration through a singular approach. And as the world celebrates World Wetlands Day 2023 whose theme is: Wetlands and Human Well-being – I shall demonstrate why humans are central to Wetlands Wise-use.

**Host Faculty:** Prof. PK Joshi

Dr. Meenakshi Dua  
Convener, Seminar Committee, SES