

# International Symposium on Tropical Seaweeds: Platform for Exchange and Advancements in Knowledge on Seaweeds (PEAKS)

March 24-25, 2025

**DAY 1 (24<sup>th</sup> March, 2025)**

## Inaugural Session [10:00-11:00 AM]

Time	Details of proceedings
10:00-10:10 AM	Welcome Address by Director, BRIC-ILS
10:10-10:20 AM	Address by Mr. Shrikumar Suryanarayan, Sea6 energy
10:20-10:35 AM	Remarks by DBT Govt. of India
10:35-10:50 AM	Remarks by DST Govt. of Odisha
10:50-11:00 AM	Brief of the event by Dr. Sanjeeb K. Sahoo, BRIC-ILS

**High Tea 11:00 -11:30 AM**

## Session 1: Introduction to the world of seaweeds

[11:30 AM – 1:30 PM]

Chair: Dr. Dharani Gopal; Co-Chair: Dr. Gulam Syed

Time	Speaker
11:30 -11:50 AM	<b>Tropical seaweed biomass - the sustainable and scalable industrial feedstock for the future</b> Mr. Shrikumar Suryanarayan, Sea6 energy
11:50 AM-12:10 PM	<b>Marine bioprospecting of seaweeds-Innovations for a sustainable future</b> Dr. Debasis Dash, BRIC-Institute of Life Sciences
	<b>Assessment and evaluation of therapeutic potential of seaweeds from Chilika lagoon</b> Dr. Sanjeeb K. Sahoo, BRIC-Institute of Life Sciences
12:15-12:35 PM	<b>Life-history-based farming of industrially important red seaweed <i>Gracilaria dura</i>: A ploidy based differences in functional traits</b> Dr. Vaibhav A. Mantri, CMSCRI
12:35-12:55 PM	<b>Opportunities and challenges for seaweeds research and utilization in India</b> Prof. Dinabandhu Sahoo, University of Delhi
12:55-1:15 PM	<b>Seaweed science for skin defense: Innovation against UV damage and skin cancer</b> Dr. Luna Samanta, Ravenshaw University

**Lunch 1:15-2:30 PM**

## Session 2: Exploration and Genomics of Seaweeds

[2:30 PM – 5:30 PM]

Chair: Dr. Debasis Dash, Co-Chair: Mr. Shrikumar Suryanarayan

Time	Speaker
2:40-3:05 PM	<b>Ten lessons learned during sixty years of phyconomy exploration and research</b> Dr. Iain Neish, Seakitshub and Sea6 Energy (keynote address)
3:05-3:30 PM	<b>Seaweed genetic collection and life-cycle</b> Dr. Eka Prasedya, Universitas Mataram
3:30-3:55 PM	<b>Recent advances in Gelidium and Kappaphycus research</b> Dr. Asmi Citra, Universitas Hasanuddin

3:55-4:20 PM	<b>Toward tropical seaweed breeding</b> Dr. Michael Roleda, University of Philippines
4:20-4:45 PM	<b>Seaweed derived oligosaccharides improve shrimp health and productivity</b> Dr. Hemanth Giri Rao, Sea6 Energy Pvt Ltd
4:45-5:30 PM	Panel Discussion

<b>DAY 2 (25<sup>th</sup> March 2025)</b>	
<b>Session 3: Bioprospecting and cultivation of seaweeds</b> <b>[10:30 AM– 1:00 PM]</b> <b>Chair: Dr. Cathrine Manohar, Co-Chair: Dr. Seema Pradhan</b>	
10:30-10:55 AM	<b>Biodiversity and prospects of seaweed cultivation in Andaman &amp; Nicobar Islands</b> Dr. Dharani Gopal, NIOT
10:55-11:20 AM	<b>Nitrogen-fixing bacteria associated with tropical seaweeds</b> Prof. Valsamma Joseph, CUSAT
11:20-11:45 AM	<b>Chemical &amp; enzymatic processing of cellulose: lessons for processing seaweed polysaccharides</b> Dr. Shams Yazdani, ICGEB
11:45 AM-12:10 PM	<b>Marine microalgal bioprospecting: biodiversity and biotechnological Applications</b> Dr. Smita Mitbavkar, NIO
12:10-12:35 PM	<b>Seaweed Cultivation and Its Challenge</b> Dr. Kirti Mishra, CEO, Brahma Kamal
12:35-1:00 PM	<b>Recommendations for future roadmap for seaweed biology in Odisha</b> <b>Vision of BRIC-ILS on seaweeds</b> Dr. Debabrata Biswas, BRIC-ILS
<b>Lunch 1:00-2:30 PM</b>	
<b>Session 4: Translational Potential of seaweeds</b> <b>[2:30 PM– 5:30 PM]</b> <b>Chair: Dr. R A Narayanan, Co-Chair: Dr. Gulam Syed</b>	
2:30-2:55 PM	<b>Enzymatic digestion of seaweed polysaccharides</b> Dr. Volker Sieber, Technical University of Munich
2:55-3:20 PM	<b>Understanding the chemical communication of seaweeds for healthy seaweeds</b> Dr. Mahasweta Saha, Plymouth Marine Labs
3:20-3:45 PM	<b>Marine microbial metagenomics and their importance in seaweed physiology, cultivation and processing</b> Dr. Cathrine Manohar, NIO Goa
3:45-4:10 PM	<b>Laboratory methods for studying seaweeds</b> Dr. R A Narayanan, Sea6 Energy Pvt Ltd
4:10-4:40 PM	<b>Nori/Gim: A red seaweed from basic biology to a billion-dollar business: pitfalls of commoditization and phyconomic lessons to be learned</b> Dr. Alan Critchley, Verschuren Centre for Sustainability in Energy and Environment, Canada.
4:40-5:30 PM	Panel Discussion