

Press release;

**'Sustainable Ecotourism;
Mayfair Convention Hall, Bhubaneswar
July 11, 2018;
Odisha Tourism &
Ecotourism Society of India**

Department of Tourism & Department of Forest and Environment, Govt of Odisha are organizing a 1 day workshop on 'Sustainable Ecotourism' in Bhubaneswar on 11th July 2018. The Ecotourism Society of India is the knowledge partner for this workshop. Ecotourism Society of India (ESOI) is the nodal body of 'Eco Tourism' supported by Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India - to further the cause of **Safe, Sustainable & Responsible Tourism**. Being the **National body for Responsible Tourism**, we work in partnership with other stakeholders, the state governments and other national and regional bodies. ESOI has an **MoU with the Ministry of Tourism** to help deliver Sustainability in Tourism across the country. MOT recognizes ESOI as its partner in driving and advocating **Sustainable Tourism Criteria for India (STCI)** initiatives across the country.

The special focus of the workshop is Sustainability Practices in Nature based tourism to support '**Sustainable Tourism Criteria for India**' (STCI). This workshop is being attended by professionals and practitioners in the Industry. *This includes- The Tourism Dept Officials, the Forest Dept officials, Tour operators and Community representatives who are involved in sustainable ecotourism models.*

This workshop aims to demystify the concept of 'Sustainability' in every day Tourism business- by breaking it into steps that are easy to emulate and apply. With a belief that the way forward involves setting corrective and curative measures with ecological sensitivity and conservation of nature and community development, we look at practical implementable steps in community based nature tourism.

These practices will be highlighted by speakers who practice them in their own businesses and yet benefit financially along with creating a lighter footprint, supporting the local communities and environment.