

Stakeholder Roundtable for the Launch of Policy Brief and Technical Report on Enhanced Rock Weathering in India

Organised by CPHR-MANT in collaboration with CRIA supported by Energiva Ventures

9 April 2026 (by invitation only) | 11:00AM to 03:00PM IST
Willow Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

CONTEXT

Enhanced Rock Weathering in India: What Needs to Be Decided, and By Whom

India holds a significant opportunity to advance enhanced rock weathering (ERW) as a carbon dioxide removal (CDR) solution. The country sits on one of the world's largest basalt reserves in the Deccan Plateau. Its agricultural landscape is vast, soils are increasingly acid-stressed and deficient of soil organic carbon (SOC). The application of silicate rocks on farmland has direct benefits for smallholder farmers in terms of improved soil nutrients, better SOC and overall increase in yield.

Many organisations are already running projects on the ground – spanning from Maharashtra to Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, all the way to the tea estates in Darjeeling. The science, while still evolving, is credible enough to act on. Additionally, ample financing opportunities are available through the international carbon markets, where durable carbon dioxide removal credits can be sold at a price band upwards of USD 200 per tonne of CO₂ removed.

Yet, despite this emerging momentum, there is no significant recognition and support at the policy level. CDR or ERW is not mentioned in India's updated NDCs. The Carbon Credit Trading Scheme launched in 2024 does not yet recognise ERW as an approved crediting methodology. Similarly, the list of activities under India's bilateral or cooperative approaches under Article 6.2 mechanism of the Paris Agreement does not include CDR. There is a lack of national MRV protocol, no designated regulatory bodies, and limited cross-ministerial coordination. As a result, companies operating ERW projects in India currently rely on international registries to certify credits for the voluntary carbon market, given the absence of a domestic framework.

This roundtable seeks to address this gap. Rather than aiming for a consensus statement, the objective is to bring together key stakeholders to share their candid perspectives on why these policy, markets, and financing gaps exist; and what creative and inclusive approaches may be required to address them. The conversation will revolve around three interlinked questions: what the science can currently support; what should an enabling policy architecture look like; and what forms of implementation support, in the context of Indian smallholder farming, are needed to make ERW projects commercially and socially viable.

The goal is not immediate agreement but a more honest dialogue: to surface the real constraints, identify key bottlenecks that are slowing progress, and leave with greater clarity about what actions are needed and who in the room is best placed to take it forward.

AGENDA

Time	Particulars
10:30 – 11:00	Registration and Tea
11:00 – 11:10	Welcome and Context Setting Dr. Nirmalya Mukherjee, Chief Executive, CPHR-MANT
11:10 – 11:15	Brief Round of Introductions
11:15 – 11:25	Opening Remarks Asitava Sen, Co-Founder & CEO, CRIA
11:25 – 11:40	Keynote Address Dr. Neelima Alam Associate Head, Climate Energy and Sustainable Technology (CEST) Division, Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India
11:40 – 11:45	Launch of Policy Brief and Technical Report: <i>Assessment of Current Practices in Enhanced Rock Weathering and Developing Good Practices and a Policy Framework for India</i>
11:45 – 12:00	Presentation: Key Findings from the Policy Brief and Report on ERW in India Dr. Madhuparna Paul, Geologist, CPHR-MANT
12:00 – 13:15	Discussion (Moderated by CPHR-MANT & CRIA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does the current science support in terms of safe and credible ERW deployment in India? • What should the enabling policy architecture look like in the Indian context? • What forms of implementation support are needed – particularly within India’s smallholder agricultural systems – to ensure ERW projects are both commercially viable and socially beneficial? • Next Steps: specific ideas and roadmap
13:15 – 13:30	Key Takeaways and Vote of Thanks Ramanshu Ganguly, Partner and Lead, Energiva Ventures
13:30 onwards	Lunch & Networking

END OBJECTIVES

1. A clear statement of what the two or three most important institutional decisions are, and who has the authority to make them.
2. An honest and open discussion on the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead and how to address them in a holistic and inclusive manner.
3. A couple of specific ideas and next steps identified where there is a broad consensus.