

Section I: Summary

We began this month with a team retreat in Goa ! We reflected on our values as a team and agreed to keep communication at the centre of the knowledge that we produce. With a consistent focus on the interplay of climate change, technology, and society in India, we continued to work this month towards creating conversations around the role of technology in climate change, energy justice, and more.



[The team at Vaayu Beach, Goa.]

Section II: Publications/Blogs

[BLOG] AI+ blog series: Breaking Things at the Speed of Thought

Our AI+ blog series aims to examine the interplay of AI with other facets of our lives. This month, in the second instalment of this series, software engineer and speculative fiction writer, Mr. Jon Minton, guest-authors a blogpost highlighting the need for tech companies to prioritise caution and self-restraint over speed in the development of AI. This way, Jon argues, we can best protect the interests of users and safely harness the power of AI in building a more stable and prosperous society. Read Jon's thought-provoking blogpost [here](#).

[BLOG] Decarbonisation and Discontents

In her blog, Transitions' very own Shantha V. addresses the frequently overlooked challenges of climate justice in India's massive solar parks. Via case studies of Charanaka solar park in Gujarat, Bhadla solar park in Rajasthan, and Pavagada solar park in Karnataka, Shantha highlights the many risks and opportunities these large infrastructure projects pose. Read [here](#).

Section III: Dialogues and Discussions at TR (Events)

Talking about Transitions: Digitalisation and anthropocene

Our *Talking about Transitions* dialogue, 'Digitalisation and the Anthropocene,' took place on February 29th, featuring [Astrid Oberborbeck Andersen](#) (Associate Professor of Techno-anthropology at [Aalborg University](#)), [Pratik Desai](#) (Founder and CEO at [Kissan AI](#)), [Vikrom Mathur](#) (Founding Director at [Transitions Research](#)), and [Angelina Chamuah](#) (Senior Research Fellow at Transitions Research). This dialogue explored the profound shift in our relationship with nature due to rapid digitalisation and the integration of digital technologies into every facet of our lives. Our discussion on the digital anthropocene addressed its impact, trends, and steps for the responsible use of digital technology in climate action and societal development. Watch the recording of the talk [here](#).

Section IV: What we've been reading

"I'm revisiting one of my favourite books, *Form and Flow: The Spatial Politics of Urban Resilience and Climate Justice* by Kian Goh. The book deconstructs dominant approaches to urban resilience, highlighting the need for inclusive, socially just, and ecologically responsive urbanism. Goh's key question is: "*In the face of climate change and uneven social and spatial urban development, how are contesting visions of urban futures produced and how do they attain power?*" Although rooted in cases in New York, Jakarta, and Rotterdam, this book is essential for reimagining Future Cities in India today." – Ashali Bhandari, Managing Director, PULL.

"I've been revisiting Ramachandra Guha and Madhav Gadgil's landmark books, *Ecology and Equity* (1995) and *This Fissured Land* (1992). These books apply the Marxian perspective of historical materialism to study how cultural practices and religious beliefs influence human-nature interactions. Just as Marx argues that a society's material basis of production (the "means of production") influence its culture. Gadgil and Guha argue that the kind of religion a community practises – animist vs. polytheist vs. monotheist – influences how that community values, thinks about, and interacts with nature." - Amita Basu, Research Fellow.

Section V: Upcoming at Transitions

PULL Net Zero Imagination Walks in Panjim, Goa

It's 2050 and the city of Panaji is thriving. The city has met its commitment to achieve net zero emissions and is an inclusive and climate resilient city. Children are swimming in the city's creeks, buildings manage their own waste and grow their own food, and people are walking and cycling down the solar-lined streets of Fountainhas, generating energy as they move. Can you envision this future?

[PULL Net Zero](#) and [Travelling Dome](#) are organising a series of Imagination Walks aimed at visualising Panaji's future. Will we successfully meet our net-zero pledge by 2050? What transformations will our built environment undergo? How will we manage waste, and what role will nature play? Join us for a series of walks from March 15th to 17th, 2024, and contribute to the collective vision for our city's future. Stay tuned for registration details.

Talking About Transitions: The Future of Urban Nature in India's Mid-Sized Cities

Our upcoming dialogue, scheduled to take place on April 1st from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., will focus on India's rapidly growing mid-sized cities, which are inevitably going to need infrastructure to accommodate the growing population. In this context, our dialogue will explore the future of nature in these cities, questioning how we can most sustainably and equitably navigate rapid urban expansion, climate change, and the needs and aspirations of communities who depend on nature. Register to attend:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_JntjITYKR6SMuzhEy45ueQ

Section VI: Call to Action

Follow us on [social media](#), Subscribe to our [newsletter](#), Visit our [website](#), Get in touch [for collaborations](#), [Write to us](#) to join the conversation around the transition to an equitable and livable future.