

Brief CV Dr. Vinod B. Mathur, D.Phil. (Oxon.)

Dr. Vinod B. Mathur joined the Indian Forest Service (IFS) and topped the 1983-85 IFS Professional Course at the Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy (IGNFA), Dehradun and also the XLV Foundational Course at Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) in 1985. He obtained his doctorate degree in wildlife ecology from the University of Oxford, United Kingdom in 1991. He is the Regional Vice-Chair of the IUCN-World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA-South Asia) and member of the International Association of Impact Assessment (IAIA). He is currently serving as member of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India Committees on World Heritage Conservation, Biosphere Reserves, Management Effectiveness Evaluation of Protected Areas and Environment Appraisal of Coal and Thermal Projects. He has now spent over three decades in WII, actively contributing to its wide range of training, research and academic programmes in the field of biodiversity conservation and research-policy interface. He has extensive experience as an international protected area planning and management trainer and his special interest include biodiversity conservation, natural heritage conservation, environmental and strategic impact assessment and biodiversity informatics.

He has been actively contributing on research-policy interface issues and is the Regional Vice-Chair (Asia-Pacific Region) of United Nations Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (UN-IPBES) Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP). He is also currently the Chair of the UN-CBD Advisory Group for developing synergies between eight biodiversity-related conventions. He has been part of the official Indian delegation for CBD and UNESCO World Heritage Committee Meetings since 2006 and has in-depth knowledge about the working of these conventions. He is also the CBD National Focal Point for Protected Areas in India.

He has served as Dean, Wildlife Institute of India from November, 2005 to January, 2014 and was appointed as Director, WII in February, 2014 and as Director, UNESCO C2C at WII in September, 2015.