S4 UNFCCC OFFICIAL SIDE EVENT · INVITED

Science in Action

Science for Sustainable Development and the Cryosphere

DATE	TIME (LOCAL)	VENUE	OPRI-SPF ROLE
Wednesday 11 November	**16:45–18:45**	**Side Event Room Brown, Blue Zone**	**Invited speaker (TBC)**

ORGANIZER	UNESCO, UN Decade of Action for Cryospheric Sciences (2025–2034)
STATUS	Awaiting confirmation from UNESCO
OPRI-SPF SPEAKER	Dr. Santosh Kumar Rauniyar (proposed)

OVERVIEW

Accelerating cryosphere change is affecting water and food security, ecosystems, cultural heritage and livelihoods, while adding to sea-level rise and loss and damage. The event explores how scientific knowledge can be turned into adaptation and practical climate action.

ANNOUNCED SPEAKERS

- Assistant Director-General for Sciences, UNESCO
- WMO, IAEA and UNU (TBC)
- High-level government, indigenous community and youth representatives (TBC)
- OPRI-SPF (invited, TBC)

OPRI-SPF KEY MESSAGES

- **Warnings must outpace hazards.** The Rasuwa disaster (2026) shows that science must reach people in minutes, not hours.
- **One system, one agenda.** Mountain cryosphere change cascades through rivers and deltas to coasts and SIDS, so cryosphere and ocean planning must go together.
- **From morning to evening.** Carries forward the Glacier-to-Ocean Global Action Agenda launched at S2 that morning with UNESCO's Dr. Anil Mishra.