

# Global Nitrogen conference

June 2, 2021

## In news

Eighth triennial conference of the International Nitrogen Initiative (INI) being held virtually from May 31-June 3, 2021

## Key updates

- The United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the main focus of the eighth triennial conference
- The conference was postponed from May last year due to the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.
- Place of the conference: Berlin, Germany
- The triennial event brings together scientists from around the world dealing with reactive nitrogen compounds in agriculture, industry, traffic, soil, water and air.
- Over 800 scientists and other stakeholders from over 60 countries are attending the conference.
- Also for the first time since the inception of INI two decades ago, its conference being hosted by Germany's Federal Environment Agency (Umweltbundesamt-UBA).
- It is co-organized by the International Nitrogen Initiative and hosted by Germany's Federal Environment Agency
- This event is also supported by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU).
- The INI holds a conference every three years, inviting members of the international nitrogen community to meet up and discuss ideas and exchange knowledge on nitrogen issues.
- Apart from scientists and German government, the conference will be addressed by speakers from the UN

Environment Programme, UN Food and Agriculture Organisation and UN Economic Commission on Europe, among others.

### **The International Nitrogen Initiative (INI)**

It is an international program, set up in 2003 under sponsorship of the Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment (SCOPE) and from the International Geosphere-Biosphere Program (IGBP).

The key aims of the INI are to:

- optimize nitrogen's beneficial role in sustainable food production, and
- minimize nitrogen's negative effects on human health and the environment resulting from food and energy production.