WWF-India
Kerala State Office

ANNUAL REPORT
2019-2020
WWF’s mission

‘To stop the degradation of our planet’s natural environment, and build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature’
FROM THE STATE DIRECTOR’S DESK

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers, supporters, partners, sponsors, friends and well-wishers, who through their various contributions, have helped us in our mission in the State, with special mention to Department of Environment and Climate Change, GoK, Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department and Kerala State Biodiversity Board.

I would like to place on record our deepest sense of gratitude for all the support that we have received from WWF-India Secretariat, namely from Mr. Ravi Singh, Secretary General & CEO, Mr. Karan Bhalla, Chief Operating Officer, Dr Sejal Worah, Programme Director and all the other heads of the various programmes, namely Ms. Vishaish Uppal, Sustainable Livelihoods and Governance, Dr. Diwakar Sharma, Monitoring and Evaluation, Dr. Dipankar Ghose, Species and Landscapes, Dr. T.S. Panwar, Climate Change and Energy, Mr. Vinod Malayilethu, Marine, Ms. Moulika Arabhi, Centre for Environmental Law, and Ms. Radhika Suri, Environment Education.

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The colleagues at the other State Offices have also been sharing, supporting and encouraging us to tide over difficult situations and we would place on record our gratitude to Ms. Farida Tampal, Hyderabad and Telangana State Office, Ms. Soudaryavalli, Karnataka State Office, Ms. Sangita Saxena, MP & Chattisgarh State Office, Ms. Saswati Sen, West Bengal State Office, Ms. Archita Baruah Bhattacharya, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh State Office, Mr. Mautik Dave, Valsad Divisional Office, and Mr. Arun Soni, Udaipur Office.

We have had very good interaction with the Western Ghats Nilgiris Landscape Office in Coimbatore and we would like to place on record our thanks to Mr. Boominathan, Mr. Tiju Thomas, Mr. Saravanan, and Ms. Mullai Pandian.

We are very grateful to all the Members of the SAB – Mr. G. Vijaya Raghavan, Chairman, Mr. C. Balagopal, Vice-Chairman, Dr. C. Bhaskaran, Prof. Saji Gopinath, Mr. Ravi DeeCee, Mr. Sunikumar, Mr. A.V. George and Mr. Suresh Elamon.

The staff at Kerala State Office has worked in one mind and spirit and that is the only reason we have been able to achieve so much. I would like to place on record my deepest sense of gratitude and appreciation to my colleagues who have stood with me shoulder to shoulder to live out the mission of WWF in Kerala. This year, our Team has grown with Ms. Anushreedha Sivanandan and Ms. Merlin Mariam Varghese joining as the Project Officers in the ongoing Rivers Project supported by DoECC and Ms. Rahana Iqbal has joined as Education Officer specific to the Ek Prithvi program. I hope this will create a much needed synergy to scale up our work and improve the outreach, impact and quality too in all possible ways.

Renjan Mathew Varghese
STATE OFFICE PROFILE

Renjan Mathew Varghese,
State Director
(2006 – Till date)

A.K. Sivakumar
Senior Education Officer
(2000 – Till date)

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(July 2019 – Till date)

Ms. Merlin Mariam Varghese
Project Officer
(August 2019 – Till date)

Ms. Rahana Iqbal
Education Officer
(November 2019 – Till date)

Mr. Kiran Mukesh
Admn. & Accounts Officer
(July 2019 – Till date)

R. Harishkumar
Administrative Assistant
(1998 – Till date)
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Mr. G. Vijaya Raghavan
Chairman
(Former Member, Kerala State Planning Board & Director, SunTec)

Mr. C. Balagopal,
Vice-Chairman
(Former Managing Director, Terumo Penpol)

Mr. A.V. George,
Member
(Chairman, AVG Group of Companies)

Dr. C. Bhaskaran,
Member
(Professor (Retd.), Dept. of Extension, Kerala Agricultural University)

Mr. Ravi DeeCee,
Member
(CEO, DC Books)

Mr. C. Sunilkumar,
Member
(Senior News Photographer, Mathrubhumi & Former Member, State Wildlife Board)

Prof. Saji Gopinath,
Member
(Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Management – Kozhikode)

Mr. Suresh Elamon,
Member
(Wildlife Photographer & Film Maker)
SUPPORTERS

- WWF-India Secretariat, New Delhi
- National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), Govt. of India
- Department of Environment and Climate Change (DoECC), Govt. of Kerala
- State Wetlands Authority under DoECC, Govt. of Kerala
- Kerala State Biodiversity Board (KSBB), Govt. of Kerala
- Department of Museums & Zoos, Govt. of Kerala
- Kerala Birder & Yuhina Eco Media
- Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department (KFD), Govt. of Kerala
- Johnson Lifts & Escalators, Chennai

PARTNERS

- ICLEI, New Delhi
- Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB), Govt. of Kerala
- Kerala State Council for Science, Technology & Environment (KSCSTE), Govt. of Kerala
- Thiruvananthapuram Corporation
- Centre for Innovation in Science and Social Action (CISSA), Thiruvananthapuram
- Academy for Mountaineering and Adventure Sports (AMAS), Neyyattinkara
- Indus Cycling Embassy (ICE), Thiruvananthapuram
- NIMS, Thiruvananthapuram
- Kerala Swathanthra Matsya Thozhilali Federation (KSMTF), Thiruvananthapuram
- National Fishworkers Forum (NFF)
- Schools and Colleges across Kerala
- Local Marine Turtle Conservation Groups (LMTCGs) - Green Roots Nature Conservation Forum, Thottapally, Alappuzha, Green Habitat, Surya Arts & Sports Club, Mahatma Arts & Sports Club, & Fighter’s Club, Chavakkad, Thrissur, Theeram Prakriti Samrakshana Samithi, Kolavipalam
- Friend of Marine Life, Thiruvananthapuram
- YMCA, Thiruvananthapuram
- Sustera Foundation
- Kanthari, Thiruvananthapuram
- Tree Walk, Thiruvananthapuram
- ATREE-CERC, Alappuzha

MEDIA

- The New Indian Express
- The Hindu
- The Times of India
- Godfrey’s Graphics
- SIMPLE Graphics
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- Handbook on Urban Birds of Kerala
- Common Butterflies of Kerala

6. Internship

- Ananthu Anilkumar
- Gauri P. Dathan
- Karthi S. Nair
- Jayadevan R., Siddique Sulaiman, Suhail S. & Vibindas V.B.
- Reshma M. R. & Neeraja R.

7. Other Activities

- WWF-India State Offices Meeting
- Enhancing coastal and marine biodiversity conservation
- Tiger death in Trivandrum Zoo
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- Workshop on Mangrove Conservation
- Meeting on Marine Fisheries Bill
- WWF’s support in Flood Relief
- High Range Mountain Landscape Project Meeting
- WWF’s initiative towards Water Conservation
- TRAFFIC POST and TRAFFIC Posters
- Conducted Quiz on the Marine & Coastal Ecosystem and Pollution
- River Walk
- Mid-Term review of State Offices in WWF-India Secretariat
- Launch of celebration of 50 years of WWF India
- Field Visit to Chavakkad
1. Conservation Projects and Programs
1.1 Conservation Projects

Post Flood Impact Assessment on Biodiversity

This project was supported by Kerala State Biodiversity Board. The study covered birds, butterflies, dragonflies and frogs in seven select locations across Kerala. The Board accepted our request for extension of the timeline of the project up till August end to cover pre-monsoon, monsoon and post-monsoon seasons also. In this background, the field team led by Mr. Sujith V.G. covered the sites clubbing them together as per the geographical locations. The MoUs were signed with all the Field Experts and ToR with the Field Assistants. The sites outside forest areas were covered initially. The field visits were completed by the first week of September. The findings, outcome and recommendations of the project were presented to the Expert Review Team at KSBB on 17 October. The Final Report (Draft) was submitted to Kerala State Biodiversity Board for comments. Post review of the report, the Board requested us to carry out presentation of the outcomes, findings, and suggestions of the study to the Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) in the respective districts. The presentations were completed in Alappuzha, Kannur and Idukki. The Final Report was later submitted to KSBB with audited Utilisation Certificate and Expenditure Statement.

Assessment of Kerala’s Top Ten Rivers at Risk and River Restoration Plans and Programs – Dept. of Environment and Climate Change (DoECC), Govt. of Kerala

In the light of the sad state of affairs of all the forty-four Rivers of Kerala, being polluted beyond acceptable limits, WWF India Kerala State Office had prepared an R&D proposal titled “Assessment of Kerala’s Top Ten Rivers at Risk and River Restoration Plans and Programmes” and submitted it to the Dept. of Environment and Climate Change (DoECC), Govt. of Kerala. The project was fully approved in October 2018 and the funds finally released in March 2019.

Initially a Project Team of two Project Officers, Ms Anushreedha Sivanandan and Ms. Merlin Mariam Varghese, was constituted to carry out the project activities. A detailed Action Plan was prepared, discussed in various forum, refined and finalised. Along with this, the Project Advisory Committee Members was nominated and finalized.

Comprehensive secondary data collection, literature review and institutional visits were undertaken during the initial stage, covering 14 Institutes and 3 Universities. 250 online and institutional-level documents were collected and 12 experts were consulted so far. The online data and the data collected from institutions were sorted according to the 10 rivers. International papers are also collected related to river health and threats. A tracker was maintained to show the parameters obtained for each river. The drafting of Rivers Factsheets for two selected rivers i.e. Periyar and Chalakudy were completed too. The Project Officers attended the Conference "Aquatic Ecosystems - Sustainability and Conservation on 20th and 21st December at IISER Pune.

The Project Team then initiated correspondence with Mr Areendran, Head, IGCMC, WWF India to arrange to prepare the basemaps. As part of this ongoing project, we associated in the International Conference on "Rivers for Future" being organised by Dept. of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries, University of Kerala in the first week of February. For this we provided registration kit materials i.e. WWF India notebooks and pens and conducted an Inter-Collegiate Quiz Competition on Rivers at the venue involving teams from different colleges. We have also contacted agencies working on rivers in Kerala i.e. River Collectives to compile details of their work and present it as part of this project.
Marine Turtle Conservation along Kerala Coast

As part of the project “Marine Turtle Conservation along Kerala Coast” supported by Johnson Lifts & Escalators, we continue to engage with the Volunteers of the Local Marine Turtle Conservation Groups. This helps in better beach patrolling during the nesting period and ensures protection of the nesting Marine Turtles that come to our beaches during the cover of night to make their nests and lay their eggs. Under this project, we distributed Field Kits to the 4 LMTCGs in Chavakkad on July 14th 2019 which had Wind Cheaters, GPS, Camera, Torches and Tent. The MTC Project - Phase II was thus completed.

Preparation of Detailed Project Report for Marine Turtle Conservation in northern Kerala

As part of initiating new work on Marine Turtles along the Kerala Coast, we prepared and submitted a proposal to NCSCM, Chennai on September 9th 2019 to develop a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Marine Turtle Conservation along northern Kerala Coast. The objective of the DPR would be to achieve improved conservation through participatory approach and better networking. As a follow-up to this, the State Director attended the meeting organised by NCSCM at Hotel Apollo Dimora on September 25th 2019 on DPR Preparation for better understanding on the task taken up. We carried out field survey of the Kerala coast from Chavakkad to the northern tip of Kasargod from March 1st to 15th, 2020 with the ultimate objective of gathering better knowledge on the coast of northern Kerala and the issues faced by Marine Turtles. The data and information collected with photos were the foundation for the preparation of DPR for MTC.

1.2 Conservation Programs

Heronry Count

Heronry count was conducted in three districts – Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam and Pathanamthitta on July 13th 2019 and the number of volunteers were 26, 15 and 12 respectively. Heronry is where the water birds roost and breed. Counting of colonial nests is regarded as an effective and accurate way to determine the breeding population of water birds in an area. Being one of the top predators in the aquatic food chain, monitoring their population helps indicate the health of the aquatic ecosystem, freshwater as well as brackish water.

Participatory Survey and Conservation of the major wetlands acting as waterbird habitats in southern Kerala

As part of this project, we brought out quality resource materials in the form of Students Activity and Colouring Book on Wetlands, Stickers and Posters, Set of Exhibition Panels in both English and Malayalam, Poster Set, Handbook on Waterbirds of Kerala etc. Compilation of the contents for the Exhibition Panels were done with the technical help of Mr Ashish George and the design and layout created by Godfrey’s Graphics. For the awareness and outreach programmes, we discussed the program with Christ Nagar College of Teacher Education, College of Teacher Education and NSS Training College, Pandalam respectively in Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam & Pathanamthitta.

Wetlands Conservation Awareness Campaigns were conducted in following colleges with the participation of 297 Teacher Trainees.
b. NSS Training College, Pandalam, Pathanamthitta District on 11th October 2019
d. Kerala University Centre for Teacher Education, High School Jn, Kollam District on 18th October 2019.

The Teacher Trainees will be participants of the awareness workshops and they will be equipped with the necessary information, resource materials, PowerPoint presentations etc. and further requested to reach out to one school of their preference, either near to their institution or their home, and take one session for a group of 60 – 80 students and make them aware on wetland conservation. So ultimately the outreach we achieve through this campaign will be multifold.

Water bird Count was conducted in Thiruvananthapuram on 12th October, Kollam on 18th October and Pathanamthitta on 19th October. There were thirty-five Volunteers in each district for conducting the Waterbird Count.

**CBMP – Common Bird Monitoring Program**

Onam Bird Count 2019 (Common Bird Monitoring Program) was conducted from 13th to 16th September 2019 in Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam & Pathanamthitta districts with the participation of thirty-five birders and seventy-four checklists were generated.

**Thiruvananthapuram Bird Race**

Thiruvananthapuram Bird Race was conducted on 1st December 2019 covering eight sites, Punchakkari - Vellayani Wetlands, Akkulam - Veli Wetlands, Aruvikkara Reservoir, City Team covering Museum & Zoo Compound - Kesavadasapuram Paddyfields - Kannammoola Thodu, Kallar - Ponmudi Forests, Bonaccord Forests, Palode Forests and Arippa Forests in the district with the participation of forty-eight bird experts and budding birders. Each team started their journey to their respective birding locations and reported back by lunch time. They enjoyed the birding and shared their experience with others. The gathering concluded with lunch.

**Asian Waterbird Census (AWC)**

The annual Asian Waterbird Census 2020 in Pathanamthitta District was conducted with the support of Social Forestry Wing of KFD and State Wetland Authority Kerala on the 25th and 26th of January 2020. The Team covered seven sites of the district with the participation of thirty-five Volunteer Birders. An Orientation Session was conducted on 25th evening at the Marthoma Retreat Centre, Kozhanchery and was led by Sri. C. Harikumar, Co-ordinator of Pathanamthitta Birders. The same protocol of the Waterbird Monitoring Program was kept for this and the team counted 4796 birds belonging to fifty-seven species from seven sites.

AWC was conducted in Thiruvananthapuram District on the 1st and 2nd of February 2020. An orientation session was conducted on 1st February 2020 at the Activity Centre within the Museum & Zoo Campus as many fresh birders from All Saints College and other institutions were part of it. The session was led by Sri. A.K.Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer of WWF-India. The same protocol of
the Waterbird Monitoring Program was kept for this too and the team counted 3192 birds belonging to fifty species from ten sites.

AWC was conducted in Kollam District on the 15th and 16th of February 2020. The orientation session was conducted on 15th February 2020 and was led by Ms.Anushreedha Sivanandan, Project Officer of WWF-India. The team counted 4760 birds belonging to sixty species from eight sites. Both the AWCS were conducted with the support of Social Forestry Wing of KFD and State Wetland Authority Kerala.

**Campus Bird Count**

Kerala State Office conducted the Campus Bird Count in three colleges, MG College at Thiruvananthapuram, SN College and Fatima Mata National College at Kollam in alignment with the national-level Great Backyard Bird Count. It was a rewarding and experimental learning session for the 60 Volunteers who participated.

**Bird Atlas Surveys**

Kerala State Office conducted the Bird Atlas Surveys in four phases in three districts with the participation of thirty Birder Volunteers. Completed twenty-seven sample sites in Thiruvananthapuram with 108 checklists, twenty-nine sites in Pathanamthitta District with 116 checklists.
Photo Gallery

Project on Post Flood Impact on Biodiversity – Selected Fauna (Birds, Butterflies, Frogs & Odonates)
Photo Gallery

MTC Field Kit to Green Habitat

MTC Field Kit to Mahatma Club

MTC Field Kit to Surya Arts & Sports Club

MTC Field Kit to Fighters Club

MTC Detailed Project Report Preparation – Consultation with LMTCGs at Chavakkad
Photo Gallery

Heronry Count

Wetlands Conservation Awareness Campaign at Kollam and Mavelikara

Wetlands Conservation Awareness Campaign at Pathanamthittam and Thiruvananthapuram
Photo Gallery

Survey as part of preparation of Bird Atlas

Thiruvananthapuram Bird Race

Thiruvananthapuram Bird Race Team
Photo Gallery

Asian Waterbird Census Birders & Volunteers Team at Kollam

Asian Waterbird Census Birders & Volunteers Team at Pathanamthitta

Asian Waterbird Census field observations
2. Environment

Education
2.1 EE Projects

ECHO

ECHO – Building Environment Conservation Heroes is a programme encouraging college students to come up with projects that addresses relevant issues faced by the society as per the theme decided in ECHO each year. The theme of this year was plastic pollution.

In Kerala, we had selected six colleges from Kollam District to participate in ECHO. Initially Orientation Workshops were conducted at each college and necessary and timely follow-up was carried out over phone and mail. The ECHO Review Meeting was conducted at SN College, Kollam and 26 representatives from the five participating colleges took part and shared the status of their projects and the way forward. The State Director Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese and the Senior Education Officer Mr. A.K. Sivakumar led the discussions. Mr. Harith, VEP Intern was also present. Each team was given ten minutes to present the progress of their project work and the last five minutes was used for giving suggestions and charting the way forward so as to complete the projects before the State Summit. The ECHO State Summit was convened at St. Gregorios College, Kottarakara with the participation of twenty-six students in five teams. Mr. A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer took the lead in organising the event with the support of Ms. Anushreedha Sivanandan and Mr. Harith.

We then had telephonic discussions with our existing group of Teacher Co-ordinators and also submitted a letter to the Dept. of Environment & Climate Change for association in 2020 with their Bhoomitrasena Clubs. ECHO Promotional Talks were conducted in All Saints College & Mar Ivanios College in Thiruvananthapuram on 25th, in Mar Gregorios College, Kottarakkara on 28th September 2019 and further on in Bishop Moor College, Mavelikara on 11th October 2019, with a total participation of 185 participants. As part of ECHO, the State-level Orientation Program was conducted for nine colleges at NSS College, Kollam on 29th October 2019 and forty Student Volunteers participated.

The total number of participant colleges as of now was ten. On follow-up we received five proposals. For the National ECHO Summit Participant Team of the previous year, the College organized a Felicitation Function in their college campus. Senior Education Officer, Officials from Dept. of Envt & Climate Change and management representatives participated. The proposals submitted by the participant colleges of ECHO were reviewed by the in-house team and necessary suggestions were given to make it more outcome oriented.

Ek Prithvi

Ek Prithvi is one of the five pillars of Environment Education of WWF-India and it is an extra-curricular experiential learning programme for school students from classes 1 to 12. The themes are biodiversity, climate change, food wastage, pollution, water and energy conservation. WWF-India has already prepared the Teachers Handbooks, Students Workbooks and Leadership Manual for the smooth conduct of the programme in a standard manner in all locations. This year, Kerala has also been selected for the implementation of Ek Prithvi targeting 10 Government Schools and 5000 students. The programme takes a Whole School Approach i.e. Management, Administration, Teachers, Students and Parents will be included in this programme. Necessary formal permissions from the Director of Public Instructions, Govt. of Kerala will be sought and MoU signed and the programme will be rolled
out in the State initially with the Leaders Orientation Workshop, Teachers Training Workshop and further on to the schools.

Godfrey’s Graphics will carry out the design and layout work of the resource materials. The resource materials were translated into Malayalam. A team of retired people of Kerala Basha (Literature) Institute was identified to take up the translation and language proofing work.

An initial discussion was carried out with Mr. C. Jayarajan, NGC Co-ordinator of Wayanad to see the possibility of implementing Ek Prithvi in the government schools in Wayanad. But looking at the accessibility and ease of transportation, we have decided to initially implement this in the government schools in the suburbs of Thiruvananthapuram itself. In this regard, Academy for Mountaineering and Adventure Sports (AMAS) based in Neyyattinkara, who had already carried out many green initiatives and has been a great supporter of WWF has been selected as a partner organisation.

Inspite of our best efforts with the Directorate of Public Instructions to get support to implement Ek Prithvi in government schools as in other states, we were not given the approval citing very specific technical reasons. Since they were very appreciative of the methodology and content of Ek Prithvi, we were advised to look for unaided schools.

In this background, we were finally able to launch Ek Prithvi program in the following five schools in the Neyyattinkara Educational District in Thiruvananthapuram, namely

1. Bharatiya Vidyapeeth Central Public School, Parassala
2. Sai Krishna Public School, Chenkal, Neyyattinkara
3. Sree Saraswathy Vidyalayam, Ooruttambalam
4. Sree Vivekananda Memorial Public School, Aralamoodu, Neyyattinkara
5. Shree Vidyadhiraja Vidya Nilayam Higher Secondary School, Alummoodu, Neyyattinkara

Baseline Assessment: As part of the program, the baseline evaluation data was collected using structured questionnaire distributed to selected class of students with proper orientation classes on how to fill-up the form. Their responses were digitalized completely and shared with Environment Education Division, WWF-India to be further send for data analysis in the Harvard University, USA.

Leadership Training Program: This was successfully conducted on 23rd December 2019 at Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary on 23rd December 2019. One Principal, two Vice-Principals, three Academic Coordinators and sixteen Teachers participated. The outdoor sessions and a soft trekking helped in making them really concerned about Mother Earth and this could be conveyed to their students too. Senior Education Officer and Sri.S.Radakrishnan, Rtd. Dy. Director (Wildlife Education) led the event.

Orientation Workshops for Ek Prithvi Schools: The workshops were conducted in Bharatiya Vidyapeeth Central Public School, Parassala on 30th Sept. with forty-nine participants, in Sai Krishna Public School on 1st Oct with forty-four participants, in Sree Saraswathy Vidyalayam on 28th Oct with thirty-five participants, Shree Vidyadhiraja Vidya Nilayam Higher Secondary School, Neyyattinkara on the 8th with forty-three participants and in Sree Vivekananda Memorial Public School, Aralamoodu, Neyyatinkara on 14th November with the participation of sixty-eight School Teachers. Resource materials like Teacher’s Handbook, Students Workbook and Project books, Posters on Water, Energy and Paper were distributed.

Floor Game was printed on canvas as we wanted to avoid printing on a flex. Mr. Jithu Prabhakar was appointed as the Intern in the Ek Prithvi project. We conducted the Baseline Survey in five schools.
with 1104 students and Pamphlet Intervention Survey in four schools with 761 students. As for the School Estate Development, had individual discussions with all the five school authorities and came up with slightly different items like Butterfly Garden, Bird Bath, Bird Feeder etc.

Backyard Trail for Ek Prithvi Schools: As part of providing experiential learning, students of the Ek Prithvi Schools were taken to the Elephant Rehabilitation Centre at Kottur for a backyard and eco trail. They visited the ERC and had a short Eco trail within the nearby forests. Senior Education Officer, Education Officer and Ms. Veena M., the consultant for Eco trails led the teams. The students enjoyed the life of elephants from calves to the senior most one which is seventy-one years old. The Eco Trail provided a good opportunity to see, know and feel the biodiversity richness in forms of plants, birds and butterflies.

State Panda Fest: We also organised the State Panda Fest with the participation of 210 individuals including students, teachers and parents. On the day of the State Panda Fest, a Cyclothon with 30 cyclists from Neyyattinkara under the leadership of Mr. Prakash P. Gopinath, Bicycle Mayor of Thiruvananthapuram started off from Neyyattinkara and continued on their route up to the venue of the Fest i.e. Sai Krishna School, Chenkal. This was followed by the formal inauguration of the State Panda Fest by Mr. K. Ansalan, MLA of Neyyattinkara in the function presided over by Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director, WWF-India. Ms. Radhika Suri, Director, Environment Education, WWF-India in her keynote address gave an overall picture of the various programmes under Environment Education and detailed on how it is impacting lives and making a change in citizens and the country for a better tomorrow. Mr. Rajendran, Director, AMAS Kerala and the Mr. Pratap Rana K, Principal of Bharatheeeya Vidyapeedom Central School, Parassala, Mr. N. Sreekantan Nair, Principal of Shree Vidyaadhiraja Vidhyanilayam Higher Secondary School, Neyyattinkara, Mr. Hrishikesh, Principal of Sree Saraswati Vidyalayam, Ooruttambalam and Mr. R. Radhakrishnan, Academic Director of Sai Krishna Public School, Chenkal gave their felicitations. Mr. A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer, WWF-India gave the vote of thanks. The inaugural session was followed by presentations by the teams from the four participant schools. Few Parents and Teachers also came forward and shared their excitement on how this programme, despite the short duration, has been able to make a change in their children on stopping elders from burning leaf litter, plastics and other waste in the home backyard, reducing eating junk food, especially packaged wafers and soft drinks etc. Based on the presentation of the students and on the School Estate Survey carried out earlier, it was decided that the team from Sree Saraswathy Vidyalayam, Ooruttambalam would represent Kerala in the National Panda Fest to be held in WWF-India Secretariat in New Delhi from 5-7 February 2020.

National Panda Fest: A six-member team from the State was part of the National Panda Fest in New Delhi as the culmination of the year-long environment education programme. It was a totally different experience for Nandana and Vaishnavi, Class IX students of Sree Saraswathy Vidyalayam, Ooruttambalam. They were accompanied by their Teacher Ms. Sugathakumari and also the WWF-India Kerala Team comprising of Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director, Mr. A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer and Ms. Rahana Iqbal, Education Officer-Ek Prithvi. The three-day Fest helped them make a national connect to the schools teams from across 13 other states of India extending from Leh-Ladakh to down south. The change adopted by Sree Saraswathy Vidyalayam of replacing plastic pens with refillable fountain ink pens and now to bamboo pencils and pens was highly applauded. The interaction with the Trustees of WWF-UK was a totally different experience for the team.
Wild Wisdom Quiz (WWQ)

This is the one and only quiz of its kind in India and we have been conducting this successfully across India for the last many years. As part of promoting WWQ this year, we have sent mails to a database of 178 schools in addition to sending emails to all regular participants of WWQ. Since CBSE is a formal partner in this initiative, follow-up meeting was carried out with CBSE Regional Office in Thiruvananthapuram and as an outcome, they directly sent letters to schools. We also met the Academic Head of Bhavans Vidyakendra, Cochin and Deputy Commissioner of KVS, Ernakulam Region and Management of Christ Nagar group of Institutions under which seven schools are working. For wider outreach, a small write-up was given in newspapers and the same have been covered in The Hindu and the New Indian Express and we have received lot of queries. The program was widely promoted through FB, WhatsApp and Instagram too.

We sent out Quiz Q & A Keys to all the 40 registered schools and got school level results from the schools. The State Director was the Quiz Master for the WWQ City-level held at Coimbatore on 11th Oct. For WWQ 2019, we conducted the City-level Quiz on 3rd October 2019 with the participation of sixty-one teams. The Quiz was conducted at YMCA Hall, Pulimoodu, Thiruvananthapuram and the Quiz Masters were Ms. Merlin Mariam Varghese, Project Officer (Rivers) and Mr Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director. Masters. Kiran Thomas Tyson and Nakul B. from Bhavans Vidy Mandir, Girinagar, Ernakulam emerged the winners in the Junior Category, while Joash Jobby Jacob and Ishan Saajy of Loyola School, Thiruvananthapuram and Aman B. Manoj and Sarang L.V. of Bhavans Vidy Mandir, Elamakkara, Ernakulam came in the second and third positions respectively.

The first place winners were Masters. Neeraj B. Nair and Arjun Vivek of Bhavans Vidy Mandir, Girinagar, Ernakulam. Muhammed Raihan and George Kuriakose Basil of Vidyyodaya School, Ernakulam and Ameya Madhavan V. and Parvathy K. Nair came in the second and third positions respectively.

Mr. A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer travelled to Delhi and attended the National and International Finals at WWF India Secretariat and provided possible technical and logistics support for conducting the quiz. The National and International Finals were held at WWF India Secretariat on 19th and 20th December 2019 respectively. Masters. Adhiraj Kar and Samarjith Das became the winners at National Level. Apart from India, teams from Bhutan, United Kingdom, Colombia, Hong Kong, Indonesia and Nepal were the contestants for international finale. Team Colombia represented by Masters. Jorge and Esteban became the winners of International Finals.

As a follow-up with the participant schools, we prepared and sent a “Quiz on Mountain Ecosystems” in connection with International Day for Mountains to 32 schools who participated in WWQ 2019. We also sent out Wetland Quiz to all WWQ Schools to observe World Wetlands Day in Feb 2020.

One Planet Academy (OPA)

WWF-India has developed the online learning platform One Planet Academy with the support of CapGemini under their CSR mandate. The platform has very relevant resources materials in the form of videos, stories, games, books etc. on various themes like biodiversity, pollution, climate change etc. which can be used by both Teachers and their students. We are now trying to push this to schools so that we have maximum registration. There are four options for registration – School, Teacher, Student, Individual. As part of this, we have been reaching out to schools through emails and phone calls and direct visits mainly to schools in Thiruvananthapuram and Ernakulam cities. We have put in an Intern
also for more concerted effort in outreach and getting more registrations on the OPA digital portal. We are also reaching out to schools registered with us for Wild Wisdom Quiz.

A half-day workshop was conducted for the teachers of Ek Prithvi Schools in which 25 Teachers participated. Following the introduction session, Mr A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer led a session on OPA with video clippings. Ms. Rahana Iqbal, Education Officer led a session on the upcoming activities of Ek Prithvi. The workshop concluded with lunch.

2.2 Commemoration of Environmentally Important Days

World Environment Day 2019

The first programme as part of the observation of the World Environment Day was organized at St Joseph’s College, Alappuzha on 7th June 2019. Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director attended the event and delivered the lead talk. Around 130 students of various degree programmes attended the event.

The second programme was organized with the Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and the Environment (KSCSTE) at Sastra Bhavan Pattom on 12th June. The State Director attended the event and delivered the lead talk followed by Quiz mastered by Mr.A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer. Around 138 school students and their teachers from various educational institutions in and around Thiruvananthapuram attended the event.

The third programme in the series of events as part of observation of World Environment Day was organized on 29th June with Kerala University College of Teacher Education (KUCoTE), Kumarakapuram, Thiruvananthapuram. The State Director attended the event and inaugurated the day’s observation with the planting of a sapling in the college campus and delivered the lead talk. Seventy Teacher Trainees of the college along with their teaching and non-teaching staff attended the event.

World Ocean Day 2019

A half-day event on June 8th was organised jointly with Friends for Marine Life at Leela Beach, Kovalam. The event started off at 7am with putting up of awareness posters and banners on the beach for educating the visitors on the importance of the marine and coastal ecosystem, its various stakeholders and the threats they face. This was followed by a video show comprising of underwater videos that the scuba divers of FML had shot along the Trivandrum Coast to highlight the micro ecosystems below the sea and also show the diversity of life and the threats they face mainly from pollution. This was followed by a street drama played out by a team of girls attached to the Latin Catholic Church. Parallely, painting on canvas, painting on catamaran etc. were also arranged at the venue. Ms. Padma Mahanti, IFS, CCF (Eco-Development & Tribal Welfare) was the Chief Guest of the event. She addressed the gathering in English which was translated into Malayalam by Mr. Renjan, State Director for the benefit of the local fishermen and coastal communities. The event ended with the oath taking with all the participants lined up along the coast with their hands stretched out and saying the oath as read out by the representative of FML and the fishermen community standing in knee deep waters holding the banner of the event in the background. Around 600 people including school and college students, fishermen, local coastal communities and general public attended the event.
International Tiger Day 2019

The State Director and Senior Education Officer led the observation of International Tiger Day on 29th July 2019 in SN College, Kollam supported by Social Forestry Extension Unit, Kollam with 140 participants. The day’s event included inaugural function with representatives from the Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department followed by technical session led by Mr Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director titled “Our Vanishing Stripes”, documentary screening “India: Land of the Tiger” and Tiger Quiz in the afternoon mastered by Mr A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer.

World Wildlife Day 2020

With the ultimate aim of protecting wildlife and for better networking to make youth more aware about wildlife and need for its protection, WWF-India Kerala State Office organised the observation of World Wildlife Day 2020 with TKM College of Arts & Science, Kollam on 3rd March 2020.

2.3 Friday Forum

Friday Forum (the monthly open forum for school/ college students to discuss the environment related issues, organised in association with Dept. of Museum & Zoos) in the month of December 2019 was organised with the interactive session on "Green Protocol for the Community for a Sustainable Livelihood" by Sri. Philip P.D., Asst. Director, Shuchitwa Mission. It was attended by seventy-eight students from two colleges.

2.4 Eco-Trails

Eco-Trail to the Mysristica Swamps

Students, parents and teachers from L’ecole Chempaka, Trivandrum were taken for an Eco-Trail to the Mysristica Swamps of Kulathupuzha forests on 20th July 2019. There were a total of nineteen participants. The field expert accompanying the group explained the uniqueness of the ecosystem and the biodiversity present here. The need to preserve these living fossils were stressed. Under Eco-Trails, we are constantly bringing out quality resource materials for the benefit of the participants when out in the field. In this regard, Handbook on Urban Birds of Kerala was published. Kerala State Office also conducted two Eco-Trails for Sree Vidyadhiraja HSS and Sree Vivekananda Memorial Public School at Elephant Rehabilitation Center with the participation of eighty students on 14th and 18th January 2020. The students got a very good opportunity to learn about the life of elephants and the biodiversity around the ERC.

Eco-Trails for High Range School, Munnar

Senior Education Officer led two Eco-Trails for High Range School, Munnar in association with HRW&EPA with the participation of 160 School Students and Teachers on 11th and 12th November 2019. They were taken for an Eco-Trail traversing the unique shola forests of the National Park and familiarised with the special features of the shola forests. They could sight few Gours and Dholes in the vayals of the National Park. Following the trails, Mr.Prakash, Section Forest Officer of the National Park addressed the participants.
2.5 Classes and Lectures delivered

GIVEUP to GIVEBACK Campaign

Mr. A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer led a session on "Give Up to Give Back" as part of the campaign at NSS Training College, Changanassery. Seventy-seven participants attended the session including teachers. An interview of the State Director was recorded at Mathrubhumi Club FM studio and aired on the GIVEUP campaign and its related details.

GUGB Campaign oriented talks were delivered at various institutions such as:

- Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Technology, Pampady, Kottayam as part of their Ozone Day 2019 with 114 participants
- Government College, Nattakam, Kottayam for their Nature Club Members with participants
- SN College, Kumarakom, Kottayam as part of their Ozone Day 2019 with 90 participants
- Trivandrum Club on 21st November 2019 for the Volunteers of AMAS as part of a training.
- Thirupuram Govt HSS for the NSS Volunteers of Olathanni on 23rd Dec. They were given a class on “Ecological Footprint and Sustainable Development” and Awareness Session on GUGB.

The team also had a meeting with Gautam, Founder of 360 Degree NGO on possible partnerships in the GUGB campaign. WWF Kerala State Office team also participated in the Climate Strike organised in Trivandrum by many partners and exhibited posters and distributed stickers on the GUGB Campaign. The event saw over 300 participants. We also participated in the Beach Cleanup organised by the Green Army of Thiruvananthapuram Corporation at Vizhinjam Beach with sixty participants. The State Director was the Chief Guest of the Valedictory Function of the Trivandrum Museum & Zoo on 8th Oct and delivered the talk on the GIVEUP campaign and its significance in protecting habitats and biodiversity. The State Office also associated in the Campaign on GIVEUP SUP organised by CISSA at Manaveeyam on 2nd Oct.

Sensitisation of children on nature conservation and environment protection

The State Director led sessions in the Children’s Summer Camp organized at Cheru Reshmi, Poonthura, Thiruvananthapuram, in which around 30 children participated. Mr. Renjan explained to the children on their individual roles and responsibility towards nature conservation and environment protection. The session was followed by few minutes of active discussion. The documentary ‘Home – Our Garden of Eden’ by Shri. Suresh Elamon was screened. The students were glued to the screen during the entire time of the screening seeing the wonders of animal life and wildlife unfolding in front of their own eyes. A similar session was handled by the State Director in the Children’s Summer Camp organised by AMAS near Kattakada in which around forty children participated.

Climate Leadership Programme (CLP)

As part of our extended networking with Sustera and Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA), with the objective of making a group of youngsters better aware about Climate Change, the State Director led a session titled “Addressing Climate Change: From Global to Local with special emphasis on Kerala” for the Climate Leadership Programme at KSDMA on 13th July 2019.
Establishment of Volunteer Hub

NIMS Group of Institutions have had a long-term association with WWF in our various green initiatives. Noorul Islam College of Dental Sciences (NICDS) recently approached us expressing desire to setup a Volunteer Hub of WWF in their institute to encourage students towards green initiatives. We have in consultation with AMAS, made a draft Annual Plan and submitted to Dr Mahesh, Co-ordinator of the Volunteer Hub at NICDS. The State Director also addressed the Management and Heads of Faculty at Ettumanoorappan College on 1st Oct about establishing a Volunteer Engagement Hub in their College.

National Seminar at Government College, Nattakam

The State Director was invited as Resource Person to lead two sessions in the National Seminar organised at Govt. College, Nattakam on 22nd November, 2019. The sessions were titled “Habitat Protection and its challenges” and “Man-Animal Conflicts”. The session paved way for good networking with College Teachers and Students and also to increase their level of awareness on this subject.

Session in the Refresher Course in Environment Science

The State Director was invited as the Resource Person in the Refresher Course in Environment Science organised by UGC-HRD, University of Kerala. He led two sessions titled “Sustainable Development & Ecological Footprint” and “Addressing and Mitigating Human - Wildlife Conflicts” on 21st January 2020. This paved way for better awareness among the Teachers on the subject and also extended networking with College Teachers.

2.6 Participation in Exhibitions

WWF Exhibition Stall on the theme of "Wetlands"

We put up our WWF Exhibition Stall on the theme of "Wetlands" in the Kanakolsavam exhibition organised by Trivandrum Press Club, CISSA and others at Kanakakunnu Palace Grounds from 10 - 15 April 2019. The programme was very well organized with five pavilions with exhibition stalls of all Central and State Govt. Depts., R&D institutions, service agencies, armed forces, other NGOs. All the exhibition stalls were arranged really well and was very informative.

Wildlife Week exhibition

Wildlife Week exhibition was organised in Medical College jointly with Earth Foundation with the full support of their Volunteers.

National Children's Science Congress 2019

We were invited by Kerala State Council for Science technology and Environment for putting up a stall of WWF-India and its activities in connection with the National Children's Science Congress 2019. It was a great opportunity for us to highlight our Ek Prithvi Program and other EE activities in a national Platform and hence we went ahead and participated in the four-day exhibition conducted from 27th to 31st December 2019. We have setup the stalls with our EE collaterals and other major activities of WWF-India. We also had an installation of a Tiger made out of waste materials erected in the
background of a painting. Other things were a standee on "WWF@50" made of natural materials like jute and bamboo, a snow man made of used paper cups, origami of little Pandas which were tied along a string and hung on the top of the stall.

**WWF-India Exhibition Stall at Kerala Science Congress 2020**

As in previous years, based on our shared mission and good working relationship, we were invited by the Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and the Environment (KSCSTE), Govt. of Kerala to put up WWF-India exhibition stall as part of Kerala Science Congress at Palakkad from 24 to 27 January 2020. Mr Harish Kumar, Administrative Assistant took the lead role in arranging this. This helped us achieved more visibility for the organisation and our work and better outreach and networking.

**2.7 Other Partnership Programmes**

**Vellayani Lake Cleanup Campaign**

As part of the Volunteer Engagement Programme, Vellayani Lake Cleanup was conducted on the 28th of April 2019 in association with Kanthari, an International Institute of Social Sciences. Twenty-six volunteers participated in the event. The volunteers gathered at Kanthari Campus at 6.30am and the Senior Education Officer briefed on the day’s activity. The clean-up was carried out along the banks of Vellayani Lake by the side of Kanthari Institute itself since the water was not very deep in that area to ensure safety. Paul, Sabrea and other staff of Kanthari and the staff and volunteers team of WWF ventured into the water, traced the stem downwards from the leaves up till the submerged roots and uprooted the weeds and lotus plants along with its full stem and interconnected roots. It was really laborious process and in spite of the 4 – 5 hours of hard work put in by 26 volunteers, only a small area of the lake could be cleared of weeds. But it was a great experience.

**ATREE Vembanad Fish Count 2019**

The State Director and other Volunteers associated with WWF participated in the annual event Vembanad Fish Count organised by ATREE-CERC in Vembanad Lake on 30th May. The Orientation Workshop was organized in the evening of 29th May at the end of which all the registered participants were divided into teams ensuring there is experts, amateurs and volunteers in all the teams. On 30th morning, the teams set out by boats early in the morning itself at 6am. The teams were supported by the local fishermen arranged by ATREE. The fishermen cast their nests and the teams checked the catch thoroughly and identified the species and took count. The survey went up till 2pm and concluded by lunch. The data collected by each team was shared with ATREE for further analysis and compilation.

**Miyawaki Forests**

As part of taking up possible new learnings and new initiatives in partnership with others, the State Director met Mr Hari of Invis Multimedia who is an expert in creating Miyawaki Forests on 9/5/2019 and had a detailed discussion on the approach and methodology and visited the Miyawaki Forest demonstration plot at Kanakakunnu Palace.
Photo Gallery

ECHO – Building Environment Conservation Heroes for colleges

ECHO interaction sessions at different colleges

ECHO College Teams sharing their project ideas
Photo Gallery

Ek Prithvi – Backyard Trails

Participants of Backyard Trail learning from experts

Backyard Trail participants interacting with Field Staff of Forest Department
Photo Gallery

Ek Prithvi – State Panda Fest

Ek Prithvi - State Panda Fest – Ms Radhika Suri addressing the gathering & students sharing

Ek Prithvi – National Panda Fest
Photo Gallery

Wild Wisdom Quiz – City-level at Thiruvananthapuram

WWQ – Participants & Winners

WWQ Winners & Media Coverage
Photo Gallery

One Planet Academy (OPA) Teachers Training Workshop

OPA TTW Participants

Observation of World Environment Day 2019 at St Joseph's College, Alappuzha
Photo Gallery

WED 2019 Celebration at KSCSTE, Sastra Bhavan, Pattom

Delivering Lead Talk at the WED 2019 at KSCSTE

WED 2019 Celebration at KUCoTE, Tvpm

Tree Planting and delivering the Lead Talk in the WED 2019 event at KUCoTE, Tvpm
Photo Gallery

World Ocean Day 2019 Celebration at Kovalam with Friends of Marine Life

Street Play & Canoe Painting as part of World Ocean Day 2019

Live Painting by Volunteer & Ms Padma Mahanty, IFS, Director, DoECC addressing the gathering
International Tiger Day 2019 at SN College, Kollam

International Tiger Day 2019 – View of the participants and Volunteer with self-designed poster

World Wildlife Day 2020 at TKM Arts & Science College, Kollam
Photo Gallery

Eco-Trail to Myristica Swamps for students of LeCole Chempaka

Eco-Trail to Pampadum Shola for students of High Range School, Munnar

GUGB Campaign Session at RIT, Pampady

GUGB Campaign Session for NSS Camp at Olathanni
Photo Gallery

GUGB Campaign Session at Govt. College, Nattakam

Give Up to Give Back Campaign Talk at the function organized by Dept. of Museum & Zoos in Tvm
Photo Gallery

GUGB Campaign Talk at NSS Training College, Changanassery

Training for AMAS Volunteers Team

Sensitisation Class for Children at Cherureshmi

Climate Strike at Thiruvananthapuram

Session for Climate Leadership Programme
Volunteer Hub initiation at Noorul Islam College of Dental Sciences (NICDS), Balaramapuram

WWF Exhibition Stall at Kanakolsavam at Kanakakunnu organized by Tvm Press Club, CISSA and others

WWF Exhibition as part of Observation of Wildlife Week at Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram
Photo Gallery

WWF Exhibition Stall at National Children’s Science Congress at Ivanios Vidya Nagar, TVpm

WWF Exhibition Stall at Kerala Science Congress at IRTC, Palakkad

Vellayani Lake Cleanup under the Volunteers Engagement Programme on Earth Day
Photo Gallery

Volunteers of Vellayani Lake Cleanup

ATREE Vembanad Fish Count 2019

ATREE Vembanad Fish Count 2019 – Volunteers in Action

Interaction with Mr Hari, Expert on Miyawaki Forests and Site Visit at Kanakakunnu
3. Policy and Advocacy-level interventions
LBSAP for Kochi by ICLEI

The State Director attended and contributed to the Experts Consultation for Local Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan for Kochi (LBSAP) for Kochi organised by ICLEI South Asia in Kochi on 26\textsuperscript{th} November 2019.

Meeting on addressing Forest Fires

The State Director was invited to the meeting titled “Fire Free Forest” organised at Lenin Balavadi on 28\textsuperscript{th} January 2020 by Tree Walk and other concerned individuals. The State Director participated and shared information and took active role in the discussion on how to control forest fires.

Meeting of the Thiruvananthapuram Corporation Working Group on Environment and Disaster Management

The State Director is a Member of the Working Group on Environment and Disaster Management of Thiruvananthapuram Corporation. The State Director attended the Meeting of the Working Group called on 1\textsuperscript{st} March 2020 at the Thiruvananthapuram Corporation Office as part of the Master Plan preparation. We are taking an active role in this to ensure better protection of the nature and natural resources and to have improved networking with LSGI with the objective of pushing nature conservation and environment protection to the mainstream of the development agenda.
4. Networking
Support to other State Offices and Programme Divisions

The State Director and Senior Education Officer prepared the PowerPoint presentation on Munnar Ecosystem and its Conservation Challenges and shared it with Ms. Farida Tampal, State Director, Hyderabad and Telangana for training purposes of Enforcement Staff.

The State Office put in concerted effort into the work of translation of the Survey Questionnaire on Fisheries Subsidy into Malayalam and completed the DTP work also of the same.

Ghost Gear Survey

As part of working together with our Programme Divisions and their work, the State Director was invited to the Zoom Call on 9/6/2019 with the Marine Team on how effective and efficient data collection can be ensured through the survey to be conducted along Kerala Coast.

Forest PLUS 2.0

As part of our networking and learning, we associated with the USAID Forest Plus 2.0 programme in which the State Director attended the launch meeting organised by USAID, MoEFCC and Kerala Forests & Wildlife Dept. at Hotel Apollo Dimora on 10/31/2019.

Training of Marine Enforcement Officials with Marine Programme

A workshop was organised for Marine Enforcement Officials in the State on ETP Species & MSC Certification on 6 December 2019. Mr Pravin Kumar, Project Officer, Fish Forward II led the workshop. The sessions were handled by resource persons from CMFRI, CIFT and other such institutions. The objective of the workshop was better networking and capacity building.

Volunteers Anniversary Day

The day was observed at the Elephant Rehabilitation Center, Kottoor on 18th January with the participation of 26 Volunteers. They had a wonderful morning birding session and a visit to the Elephant Rehabilitation Center. The staff team and volunteer team cut a cake to celebrate the Day and shared their experience during the volunteering with WWF India.
Photo Gallery

Forest-PLUS 2.0 Launch at Hotel Apollo Dimora

Training of Marine Enforcement Officials on Certification and Sustainable Fishing Practices

Volunteers Anniversary Day
5. Publications
Handbook on Urban Birds of Kerala

Handbook on Urban Birds of Kerala has been published as part of WWF’s effort to bring out quality resource materials for the benefit of the participants when out in the field, under the Eco-Trails program. Text of the publication was developed by Mr. Govind Girija, our active Volunteer. Senior Education Officer and State Director reviewed the text and finalised. Photographs were provided by Senior Education Officer and our Volunteers like Mr. Biju P.B., Mr. T. Saburaj, Dr. Jishnu R. and Mr. Thejas. The design, layout and printing has been done by Godfrey’s Graphics.

Common Butterflies of Kerala

Handbook on “Common Butterflies of Kerala” has also been published under the Eco-Trails program. The content, both text and images, were compiled by Mr Sujith V. Gopalan. and the State Director and Senior Education Officer carried out the final review. The design, layout and printing has been done by Godfrey’s Graphics.
6. Internship
Ananthu Anilkumar

A graduate in Law, with permanent residence at Rohini, T.C. 16/918 (25), Panchami Gardens, Jagathy, Thiruvananthapuram underwent his internship for a period of five months from 16th September 2019 to 3rd February, 2020. During this period, he was attached to our Environment Education Division and has been involved in the following work:

- Coordination of the various programmes and activities under the Volunteer Engagement Programme (VEP)
- Coordination with the colleges in Kollam District for the Building Environment Conservation Heroes (ECHO) project
- Assisted the Environment Education team in the Ek Prithvi program – an experiential whole-school learning programme rolled out in 5 schools in the Neyyattinkara Educational District
- Outreach and Communication for the "Give Up to Give Back" campaign which emphasizes on giving up single-use plastics, food wastage, water wastage, energy wastage, carbon emissions etc.

Gauri P. Dathan

A student of B.Sc Economics Honours from Symbiosis School of Economics, Symbiosis International University, Lavale, Pune, Maharashtra with permanent residence at PRRAP 115, Puthen Road, Palkulangara, Trivandrum – 695024 underwent her internship (Covid-19 - Work from Home – Digital Engagement) for a period of one and half months at World Wide Fund for Nature – India (WWF India), Kerala State Office, Thiruvananthapuram from 27th April to 3rd June, 2020.

The main task assigned to Gauri was to review the One Planet Academy online learning platform and take feedback and suggestions for improvement. She has explored the OPA portal on her own and made feedback form, separate for Teachers and Students. She identified the respondents and shared the details and the feedback form. She did the necessary follow-up with the respondents to get the feedback. She has analysed the feedback and the suggestions and has submitted it as a Review Report to us.

In addition to the above work, she has:

- Prepared multimedia presentation of 20-30 slides (interesting, innovative and impactful) to deliver a 30-40mts talk on the theme of WED 2020 i.e. "Celebrating Biodiversity"
- Prepared a 30-40 Questions Quiz (MCQs) on the same theme to engage youth and children (with the 4 options and the answer too as a Word file)
- Draft a 10 Pointer Youth Manifesto for People and Planet for the Post-Covid scenario

Karthi S. Nair

A graduate in Environmental Science from Fergusson College, Maharashtra with permanent residence at House No. 48, Anugraha, Kumaranasan Nagar, Elamkulam, Kochi – 680 020 underwent her internship for a period of two months at World Wide Fund for Nature – India (WWF India), Kerala State Office, Thiruvananthapuram from 14th August to 11th October, 2019. During this period, she was attached to our Environment Education Division and was assigned to carry out the work in connection with the conduct of the national wildlife quiz “Wild Wisdom 2019” of WWF India. As part of this work, she has done:
• Intimating schools about Wild Wisdom Quiz 2019 through letters and emails and inviting them to participate with maximum enrolment of students
• Follow-up with the schools through calls and emails and clearing their queries.
• Follow-up visits to schools and interaction with the Principals and Teacher-in-charge to facilitate registration of students

Jayadevan R., Siddique Sulaiman, Suhail S. & Vibindas V.B.

Students of 10th Semester B.A., LL.B (5 years) of The Kerala Law Academy Law College, Thiruvananthapuram, they underwent their internship at World Wide Fund for Nature – India (WWF-India), Kerala State Office, Thiruvananthapuram during the period from 1st to 29th of May, 2019. During this period, the team were assigned to carry out the work titled “A legal analysis of Vellayani Lake: Issues and Solutions”. As part of this work, they have done
• Review of newspapers from libraries to cover the issues of Vellayani in the past years
• Contacted the direct and indirect stakeholders of Vellayani and interacted with them in detail to understand their dependence on this freshwater lake, its issues and various threats faced by the lake and their livelihoods.
• Contacted local NGOs to understand their perspective about the lake and the different interventions made in the lake by different Govt. Depts. and other agencies
• Contacted the Local Self Govt. Institution (LSGI) around the lake and interacted with the key functionaries to understand how the LSGI has taken care of the lake in the past years through impactful projects and needed budget allocations
• Carried out comprehensive legal analysis to understand the various laws and legislations related to wetland protection already in place at various levels, its various provisions, which has already been used and also can be used for better protection of the lake.

Reshma M. R. & Neeraja R.

Students of Master of Social Work, Yeldo Mar Baselious College, Kothamangalam, they underwent their internship for a period of one month at World Wide Fund for Nature – India (WWF India), Kerala State Office, Thiruvananthapuram from 3rd February to 3rd March 2020. During this period, they were attached to our Environment Education Division and they have:
• Attended the Observation of World Wetlands Day 2020 at St. Gregorios School, Kottarakkara.
• Provided all the logistics support in conducting the Quiz Competition on the theme of ‘Rivers’ for the International Conference ”Rivers For Future” organised by Dept. of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries, UoK from 5 – 7 February 2020 and attended the three days conference.
• Prepared the questions for the Quiz on Wetlands as assigned by the Senior Education Officer to be shared in the WWF network across the State.
• Carried out the research work titled “Assessment of Environmental Studies in School Curriculum and its effectiveness in behavioural changes” as part of the Ek Prithvi programme, which included (i) review of the content of Environmental Studies according to the syllabus of the State Board (ii) prepare questionnaire for survey among Students and Teachers (iii) carried out survey covering seven schools as part of the field data collection (iv) interacted with the Teachers who attended the One Planet Academy (OPA) training (v) analyse the data and prepare the report of the complete assessment study with findings and recommendations.
7. Other Activities
WWF-India State Offices Meeting

The WWF-India Annual Review and Planning Meeting of the State Offices this year was convened in the Corbett Tiger Reserve, Uttarakhand from 13 – 16 May 2019. The State Director and Senior Education Officer attended the meeting, presented the ongoing projects, programmes and activities of Kerala State Office and also discussed and decided on the Strategy and Action Plan for 2019-20. We received much appreciation for the work that we are carrying out in Kerala, not just in Trivandrum City where we are based, but almost in the seven districts of the State, whereas most other State Offices are doing activities in the cities where they are based out of.

Enhancing coastal and marine biodiversity conservation

Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director and Mr. Pravin Kumar, Project Officer, Marine Programme attended the One-Day Workshop on Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Conservation Initiatives along Kerala organised by the Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department on 25th May at the Conference Hall of the Forest Headquarters at Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram.

Tiger death in Trivandrum Zoo

The State Director was included as the NGO representative in the postmortem and cremation of the Tiger after its death in the Trivandrum Zoo on 25th May as mandated by National Tiger Conservation Authority. The Tiger was earlier caught in trap in Wayanad after it ventured outside forests and created problems for local people by attacking cattle. When the Tiger was caught in Wayanad, transported all the way to Trivandrum Zoo and when it reached here itself, the animal was very weak and sick. It recovered slightly in between but finally succumbed to its death on the morning of 25th May.

Workshop on Coastal Erosion & Protection

Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director and Mr. Pravin Kumar, Project Officer, Marine Programme (Fish Forward) attended the Workshop on Coastal Erosion & Protection organised by Trivandrum Press Club, Kerala Swathantha Matsya Thozhilali Federation (KSMTF) & National Fishworkers Forum (NFF) on 26th June at the Fourth Estate Hall at Trivandrum Press Club. Smt. Mercykutty Amma, Hon’ble Minister for Fisheries was the Chief Guest of the function. Dr. K.G. Thara, Fr. Eugene Pereira, Dr.K.V.Thomas and many others spoke on the occasion.

Workshop on Mangrove Conservation

The State Director participated in the Mangrove Conservation Workshop organised by Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) jointly with Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department (KFD) at Hotel Apollo Dimora on 26th July 2019. This helped in extended networking and in putting forward recommendations advocating mangrove conservation, especially for the sparse remaining mangroves in the State.

Meeting on Marine Fisheries Bill

As part of WWF-India’s representation in policy issues, the State Director and Mr Pravin Kumar, Project Officer, Fish Forward II attended the meeting on Marine Fisheries Bill organised by Kerala Swathanthra Matsya Thozhilali Federation (KSMTF) & National Fishermen Federation (NFF) on 12th August 2019.
**WWF’s support in Flood Relief**

Doing our bit for the post flood relief work in Kerala and as part of the networking and capacity building of partners, we pooled money and bought five units of High Pressure Washers and handed over three units to Thiruvananthapuram Corporation and two units to Academy for Mountaineering and Adventure Sports (AMAS), Neyyattinkara on 21st August 2019.

**High Range Mountain Landscape Project Meeting**

As part of representing WWF in the HRML Project meeting, the State Director attended the UNDP project presentation on the HRML Project on 27th August 2019 organised in the Conference Hall of SP Grand Days at Thiruvananthapuram.

**WWF’s initiative towards Water Conservation**

For creating more awareness and outreach on the very relevant subject of water conservation, the State Director was asked to give a voice bit for Akashavani on Water Conservation and Wetland Protection. This went on air on 30th August 2019.

**TRAFFIC POST and TRAFFIC Posters**

With the objective of better outreach and awareness, ten copies of TRAFFIC POST were delivered to targeted beneficiaries on 3rd September 2019. TRAFFIC posters available in the State Office were made into sets and handed over to the Chief Wildlife Warden’s Office on 17th September 2019 for distribution to the Protected Areas across the State. This will ensure more networking, better outreach and awareness and thereby sensitisation of general public.

**Conducted Quiz on the Marine & Coastal Ecosystem and Pollution**

We conducted a Quiz on the Marine & Coastal Ecosystem and Pollution for College Students at All Saints College on 15th November 2019 and 40 students participated in this program. Mr Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director initially addressed the gathering of students. The quiz that followed was mastered by Ms. Anushreedha Sivanandan, Project Officer with the support of Ms. Merlin Mariam Varghese, Project Officer.

**River Walk**

A River Walk was conducted on 15th December at Kallar, a tributary of Vamanapuram River. There were 25 Volunteers in this event who came from different institutions. It was co-ordinated by KLGO team and was supported by 4 staffs from the Kerala Forest Department. The walk included clean-up drive, learning about aquatic ecosystem and its biodiversity. ‘Feel the River’ was the most enchanting part of the River Walk. The outcome emerged in the form of stories, posters, pencil sketches and write-ups.

**Mid-Term review of State Offices in WWF-India Secretariat**

The State Director attended the meeting with Mr. Ravi Singh and other senior Management Team at the Secretariat with other State Directors on 7th & 8th November 2019. The meeting mainly focused on review of progress of work and achievements as of now and re-look at the way forward.
Launch of celebration of 50 years of WWF India

The formal launch was conducted as a special day which started off with the Staff Outing by bird-watching at Punchakkari and Staff Get-Together in the office followed by lunch on 27th November 2019. This really helped to create synergy towards the year-long celebration.

Field Visit to Chavakkad

A field visit was organised to Chavakkad with the entire KLSO Team from March 8th to 10th 2020, to see the area and have a better interaction with the Local Marine Turtle Conservation Groups. This was done so that the State Office staff could have more field exposure and thereby better awareness about the Marine Turtle Conservation work that we do in Chavakkad with the LMTCGs.
Photo Gallery

State Offices Teams visiting EK Prithvi Schools in Uttarakhand

State Offices Teams at the Livelihood Improvement Project Site Visit & Team Work

Final Group Photo at the State Offices Meeting
Photo Gallery

Coastal & Marine Biodiversity Workshop

Seminar on Coastal Erosion

Intl Mangrove Day by WTI & KFD

Flood Relief Support to Tvpm Corp

Flood Relief Support to AMAS
Photo Gallery

Quiz on Marine Ecosystem and Coastal Pollution at All Saints College, Tvpm

River Walk with Volunteers Team as part of Rivers Day

WWF-India @ 50 – Team birding at Punchakkiri
Photo Gallery

WWF-India @ 50 State Team Get-Together at KLSO

WWF-India @ 50 State Team at Lunch

State Office Team Visit to Chavakkad to know more about Marine Turtle Conservation
Why we are here
To stop the degradation of the planet’s natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

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