



WWF

ANNUAL
REPORT

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2018

WWF-India

Kerala State Office

ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018





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 CHAIRMAN'S DESK

2017-18 has gone by very fast; maybe because of the fact that we had much on our hands and we did not have the time to pause, relax and think; but we swiftly moved from one task to the other living out WWF's mission in the State.

This has been a gratifying year like the years before, inspite of limited manpower and resources, we have been able to move forward in our mission to conserve species and habitats and doing our part in imparting education and creating awareness among the various sections of the society through our outreach programmes across Kerala.

The major conservation initiative has been on 'Marine Turtles'. I want to take this opportunity to thank Johnson Lifts & Escalators, Chennai for their funding support. On submission of our Final Report, they have expressed their happiness in the outcome of the project i.e. progress in Marine Turtle Conservation along the Kerala Coast and they have agreed to fund Phase II of this project.

On the environment education side, we control nice to roll out the major WWF-India EE initiatives in Kerala including One Planet Academy, Volunteer Engagement Programme, Eco-Trails and Wild Wisdom Quiz. We are yet to start the 'Ek Prithvi' program which will be rolled out as a unique programme for a specific target community, maybe fishermen or tribals through the Fisheries Schools or Model Schools, this will require funds by support and we have started efforts to secure funding.

Since we are part of the global network of WWF-India, we have been able to keep in touch with the many global, national and local initiatives taken up across the globe addressing local conservation needs and environmental issues, many of these can be replicated with appropriate adaptation.

I take this opportunity to thank the President, Vice-President and Members of the Board of Trustees, WWF-India for the confidence they have shown on the State Advisory Board in guiding the State Office in living out the mission of the organisation through locally relevant projects, programmes and activities. The support rendered by Mr. Ravi Singh, Secretary General & CEO and Dr. Sejal Worah, Program Director from time to time is acknowledged and appreciated.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work put in by the State Office Team under the leadership of Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director over these past years. It is their oneness, innovation and hard work that has helped us achieve all this. The contribution of the Volunteers from across the State is also duly acknowledged.

With the passing of time and change in priorities at all levels, we also need to sit back a little, think, strategise and move forward so that we will be able to achieve the same in the coming years and also even go one step further. For that, we need to expand the team, build their capacity, leverage resources and start new relationships. I am so happy to present the Annual Report of Kerala State for 2017-18.

G. Vijaya Raghavan

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, CPR Environment Education Centre, Energy Management Centre, 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.

The support given by the administrative divisions are also gratefully acknowledged, namely, Mr. Naresh Kapila, IT & Strategic Projects, Ritika Agrawal, Human Resources and Manpower Development Division, Mr. Sanjeev Singh Rana and Mr. Sathish, Operations Division, Mr. Vivek Dayal and Mr. Rajesh Puri, Finance Division, Ms. Roopali Srivastava, Mr. Umesh and Mr. Rahul, Conservation Products and Ms. Rituparna Sengupta and Mr. Himanshu Pandey, Communications Division.

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, Mr. Hari Somashekhar, 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, Ms. Arti Gupta, Himachal 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. Samuel Thomas, Mr. Tiju Thomas, Mr. Saravanan, Ms. Mullai Pandian and Mr. Vinayan.

The moral support and timely advice given by the State Advisory Board under the leadership of Mr. G. Vijaya Raghavan as Chairman has been our guiding and correcting force and we are very grateful to all the Members of the SAB – Mr C. Balagopal, 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.

Renjan Mathew Varghese

STATE OFFICE PROFILE

Renjan Mathew Varghese,
State Director

(2006 – Till date)

A.K. Sivakumar
Senior Education Officer

(2000 – Till date)

L. Pushpakumari
Senior Admn. & Accounts Officer

(1986 – Till date)

R. Harishkumar
Administrative Assistant

(1998 – Till date)

STATE ADVISORY BOARD PROFILE

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
- Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Govt. of India, New Delhi
- Department of Environment and Climate Change (DoECC), Govt. of Kerala
- WIPRO
- C.P. Ramaswamy Environment Education Centre (CPREEC), Chennai
- Kerala State Remote Sensing and Environment Centre (KSREC), Govt. of Kerala
- Energy Management Centre (EMC), Govt. of Kerala
- Kerala State Biodiversity Board (KSBB), Govt. of Kerala
- Department of Museums & Zoos, Govt. of Kerala
- Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB), Govt. of Kerala
- Agency for Non-Conventional Energy and Rural Technology (ANERT), Govt. of Kerala
- Kerala Birder & Yuhina Eco Media
- Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department (KFD), Govt. of Kerala
- Johnson Lifts & Escalators, Chennai
- Animal Welfare Board of India, Govt. of India
- NIMS, Thiruvananthapuram
- Thenmala Ecotourism Promotion Society (TEPS)

PARTNERS

- GeoVin Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Thiruvananthapuram
- Centre for Environment and Development (CED), Thiruvananthapuram
- Centre for Innovation in Science and Social Action (CISSA), Thiruvananthapuram
- Academy for Mountaineering and Adventure Sports (AMAS), Neyyattinkara
- Indus Cycling Embassy (ICE), 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, Chavakkad, Thrissur, Surya Arts & Sports Club, Chavakkad, Thrissur, Mahatma Arts & Sports Club, Chavakkad, Thrissur, Fighter's Club, Chavakkad, Thrissur, Theeram Prakriti Samrakshana Samithi, Kolavipalam
- Friend of Marine Life, Thiruvananthapuram
- Kerala Legislative Assembly Office
- YMCA, Thiruvananthapuram

MEDIA

- I&PRD, Govt. of Kerala
- The New Indian Express
- The Hindu
- Godfrey's Graphics
- SIMPLE Graphics

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1. Conservation Projects and Programs

1.1 Conservation Projects

1.1.1 Setting up of Honeybee Museum at Thenmala, under Shendurney WLS

Thenmala Ecotourism Promotion Society has awarded the work of Setting up of a Honeybee Museum as part of the Thenmala Ecotourism Interpretation Centre. WWF will be preparing and providing all the technical information and supervising the work. The art work and other related work will be carried out by Godfrey's Graphics. The fabrication of the honeybee and the other artefacts are currently underway. Ms. Sharon Koshy, Intern has been entrusted with the work to collect and compile text and images for the 29 exhibition panels to be erected within the Museum. Once she completes her work, the State Director will finalise the contents and the final design and layout will be carried out at Godfrey's Graphics. The work of fabricating and installing the honeybee model has been completed by Mr. Godfrey and Mr. Jinesh. The 27 information panels have been designed with relevant text and attractive images and the layout created at Godfrey's Graphics. The draft was shared with Mr. Manoj of Thenmala Ecotourism Promotion Society for review and approval. On receiving his approval, the panels have been printed in high quality photo sheets and mounted on forex sheets and installed with acrylic top panelling to prevent vandalism. Necessary additional painting and lighting works have also been completed.

1.1.2 Marine Turtle Conservation along Kerala Coast

As part of the project on Marine Turtle Conservation along Kerala Coast supported by Johnson Lifts & Escalators, Chennai, we had identified the dilapidated space available with Theeram Prakriti Samrakshana Samithi at Kolavipalam to be renovated and established into a full-fledged Marine Turtle Interpretation Centre. In this regard, the roofing was redone and the art work was carried out by Godfrey's Graphics. Information Boards and Exhibition Panels were also erected to give an exciting learning experience to the visitors. After completion of all the work, the Marine Turtle Interpretation Centre at Kolavipalam, the first of its kind in the country, was inaugurated on 8th August 2017 by Ms. Kulusu, Chairperson, Payyoli Municipality in a function presided over by the ACF, Social Forestry and attended by other staff of WWF-India and Johnson Lifts & Escalators and local people.

Even though the other major components of the project have been completed, the development of the Web GIS based Marine Turtle Information System – Kerala Coast (MTIS-KC) at turtlekerala.org is still being developed. Several rounds of discussions have been conducted with GeoVin Solutions Pvt. Ltd to edit the layout, content and composition of the website.

Now that we have successfully completed the project in the first year and has submitted the Activity Report and other documents, the funder Johnson Lifts and Escalators has conveyed to us their satisfaction in the project and as a result has agreed to fund the project in the second year also.

The State Director revisited the Turtle nesting sites in Chavakkad on 11 & 12 October 2017, gave away the WWF Field Kit for Beach Patrolling and had interaction with the Local Marine Turtle Conservation Groups (LMTCGs) to understand the need. The points shared by the

Photo Gallery



Honeybee Museum at Thenmala



Honeybee and its hive installation erected in the Museum



Marine Turtle Conservation work in Chavakkad

Photo Gallery



Emerged hatchlings



Protection enclosure for single nest



Volunteer pointing out the Turtle tracks



Volunteers of Mahatma



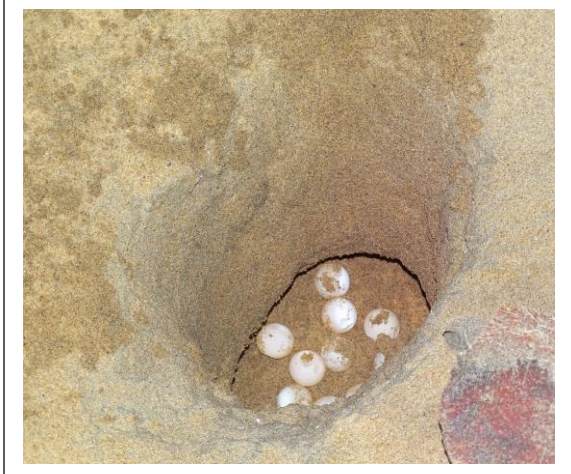
Beach patrolling and nest relocation



Photo Gallery



Nest relocation with Volunteers of Surya



Relocated nest and resting after relocation



Dr Sejal visiting Chavakkad and interacting with the Volunteers of the LMTGs

LMTCG Members have been compiled and the same has been drafted into a project proposal for the Phase II and shared with the network members for comments and suggestions. Thus, the final proposal has been submitted to JLE for funding.

Now that the nesting season has started and the Local Marine Turtle Conservation Groups (LMTCGs) have started their field work with beach patrolling, for comprehensive and meticulous field data collection, we have drafted a Field Datasheet. The same was shared within the network, reviewed and finalized. The content was translated into Malayalam with the help of Ms. Shalini Hari, Former Project Officer of WWF-India based in Mavelikara and this will be handed over to Godfrey's Graphics for the design and layout work. The sheets, adequate for next 4 months, will be printed and compiled into a Turtle Field Data Book in line with the Rhino Field Data Book already published by WWF-India and in use by the field staff in Assam.

Wall Calendars for 2018 and Name slips using Turtle images have also been made to be distributed among the local students during the awareness programmes. Preparations are on for the procurement of the field kit including Tent, Hi Beam Torches, GPS and Digital Camera.

The State Director, Vinod Malayilethu and Murukan Pareparambil accompanied the team comprising of Dr Sejal Worah and Ajay in visiting the Marine Turtle Conservation project sites and interact with the LMTCGs on 15th December. Mr. Murukan Pareparambil and the State Director was in the field from 7 to 9th February for beach patrolling along with the LMTCG volunteers.

1.1.3 Bird Atlas

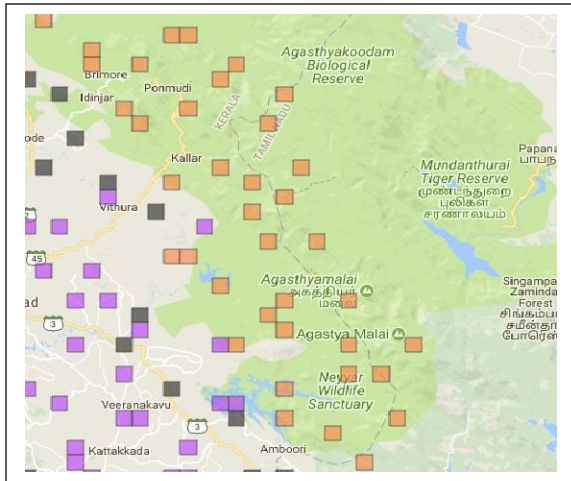
As part of preparing a Bird Atlas for the State of Kerala, Kerala State Office takes lead in the south three districts like Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam and Pathanamthitta. Of these, non-forest area of Thiruvananthapuram and Pathanamthitta were completed last year and the same for Kollam is ongoing. Survey in the forest areas of the two districts also are going on now and our birder volunteers are doing the same on every weekend. . Survey in the forest areas of the two districts also are going on now and our birder volunteers carried out the same in Peppara WLS of Thiruvananthapuram district and Ranni Forest Division of Pathanamthitta district in this month. Around 30 volunteers are engaged across these three districts. Kerala State Office has started the data collection for the preparation of Kerala Bird Atlas on 26th January 2018 and will continue till 13th March 2018. Presently we are doing this project in the forest areas of Thiruvananthapuram and Pathanamthitta districts and non-forest areas of Kollam district. Senior Education Officer, expert birder volunteers and other volunteers are engaged in this exercise.

1.2 Conservation Programs

1.2.1 Participation in the Kerala Birders Meet

Mr. A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer, Mr. Jaichand Johnson and Mr. C.Harikumar, Volunteers cum Expert Birders attended the two day discussion workshop on the ongoing

Photo Gallery



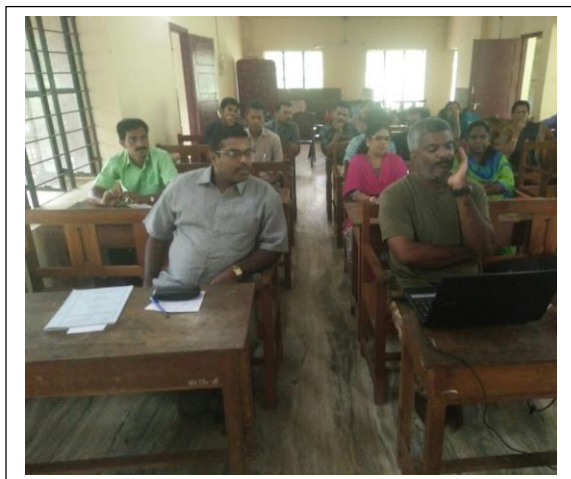
Survey as part of preparation of Bird Atlas



Birder's Meet at College of Forestry



District Co-ordinator's Meeting



District Co-ordinator's & Volunteer's Meeting at Vazhachal



district level Bird Atlas preparation and supplemented and shared their previous experience of similar exercise undertaken in the non-forest areas. They also thoroughly discussed with the other District Co-ordinators on completing the forest regions of Thiruvananthapuram and Pathanamthitta districts.

1.2.2 WWF-India Kerala District Co-ordinators Meeting

Kerala State Office with the support of Western Ghats – Nilgiris Landscape programme organised a two days meeting on 29th and 30th July 2017 at Vazhachal, including the Volunteers who are coordinating district level programmes and activities. 22 volunteers attended the workshop. Presentations by Senior Education Officer, State Director, Sri. Tiju Thomas of the WGNL programme, short field trips, group discussions, open discussions and district based action plan preparations were part of the workshop.

1.2.3 State-level Review Meeting on Green Partnership Programme

Sri. Sivakumar, Sr. Education Officer and Sri. Vinod Malayilethu, Sr. Co-ordinator, Marine Programme participated in the State-level Review Meeting of the Green Partnership Programme, a joint venture of Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department and an assembly of NGOs working in the field of bird documentation outside forest areas, on 21st August at Thrissur called by PCCF (Social Forestry). Asst. Conservators (SF) and partners from the birding community shared their experience. The final outcome was the decision of PCCF and CCF to strengthen the programme with more participatory events.

1.2.4 Thiruvananthapuram Bird Race

The Thiruvananthapuram Bird Race 2017, organized by WWF-India with the support of Social Forestry Division of Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department on the Second Saturday of this month i.e. 9th December, came up with the sighting and listing of 147 species of birds including few rare ones like Grey necked Bunting, Greater spotted Eagle, Eurasian Cuckoo and Lesser Sandplover. The list includes 25 migratory ones also which includes the Painted Stork, Eurasian Golden Oriole, Asian Paradise Fly-catcher and many others. The participants were divided into seven teams to cover the pre-identified bird rich areas in and around Thiruvananthapuram. The number of participants were rather less compared to previous years because of other engagements like IFFK film screenings, school Christmas exams etc. The observations from the seven sites include Kallar - Ponmudi Forests with 77 species, Aripa with 68, Bonaccord with 55, Akkulam - Veli with 25, Aruvikkara - Nedumangad with 53, Punchakkari with 56 and the City Team with 51 species of birds. Grey necked Bunting sighted at Punchakkari was the most important sighting of the day followed by Greater spotted Eagle from the same site. Totally 42 volunteers participated in the day's event and the teams were led by Sri. Jaichand Johnson, Kiran R.C., Anoop S.S., Dr. Jishnu R., Venu P., C.G. Arun and A.K. Sivakumar.

1.2.5 Bird documentation of Kerala Raj Bhavan Compound

Following the invitation from the Comptroller of Kerala Raj Bhavan to help them in the documentation of the birds of their campus, Senior Education Officer visited the place on

Photo Gallery



Green Partnership Programme Meet



Thiruvananthapuram Bird Race



Asian Waterbird Census (AWC)

19th December and had a discussion with them on the process. The documentation will be done in the months of January and February in a systematic and scientific way abiding by the survey protocols.

1.2.6 Asian Water Bird Census 2018

Kerala State Office is the coordinating body for the Asian Water Bird Census in the three southern districts of Kerala namely, Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam and Pathanamthitta on 7th 13th and 14th of January 2018 respectively. We conducted AWC 2018 as part of VEP with the support of Social Forestry Division of Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department. In all the three districts, we had an orientation session in advance to the field survey and ensured active participation of college student volunteers. In Thiruvananthapuram, we had conducted the census in 9 sites which resulted in 4442 birds belonging to 77 species. In Kollam also, number of sites were 9 and result was 5697 and 61. In Pathanamthitta, number of sites were 6 and result was 7856 and 60. There is a drastic fall of water birds including migratory in southern districts comparing with the result of the previous year. Habitat destruction and climate change are the main culprits but a suspect over the impact of recent 'Okhi' cyclone. The AWC was led by A.K.Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer with a committed team of expert birder volunteers namely Hari Mavelikara, Sujith V. Gopalan, Dr. Jishnu R., Govind G., Kiran Karakulam, Anoop S.S, Jaichand Johnson and Anu John.

1.2.7 Akshaya Urja Programme of ANERT

ANERT has invited selected lead NGOs including WWF to take up outreach programme as part of their Akshaya Urja Programme. In this regard, an initial discussion meeting was called by the Director ANERT on 12th December in which the State Director attended. Following that, a brainstorming session was conducted internally within our office and a proposal was submitted to ANERT for approval.

Based on the approved proposal submitted to organize 'Campaign on Renewable Energy for the General Public' including Awareness Component with Set of 6 standees, one each giving details on the 6 RE sources given above, Stickers for distribution among the public during the campaign and Set of 6 banners put up in Schools promoting Renewable Energy to ANERT, Kerala State Office conducted The Akshaya Urja Utsav from 25th to 27th Feb 2018. The Action Component was Painting Competition for Children on Renewable Energy and Public Campaign for 3 days in Museum & Zoo Compound, Shanghumugham Beach and Gandhi Park with Interactive Games on Renewable Energy and Distribution of LED bulbs to the winners.

For conducting an effective public campaign, we took enough and more time to draft the content of the standees, stickers and banners to ensure that the message will really reach the masses. All these three collaterals were prepared based on the six sources of renewable energy i.e. Solar, Wind, Biomass, Hydro, Tidal and Geothermal. The standees were used as a background exhibition in all the venues during the public campaigns. The stickers were distributed to the general public by the volunteers and hence it was created with attractive punch captions so that the receiver will not throw it away as it is a sticker and will have the tendency to take it home and put it somewhere or give it to the children at home.

Photo Gallery



Launch of Akshaya Urja Utsav Campaign



Painting Competition



Public Campaign at Shanghumugham



Public Campaign at Gandhi Park



Photo Gallery



Akshaya Urja Utsav – Public Campaign at Museum & Zoo Compound



Common Bird Monitoring Programme (CBMP)



Earth Hour Cyclothon



EH Public Campaign

Photo Gallery



EH Campaign in Museum & Zoo



EH Candle Light Vigil



Western Ghats Landscape Visit with Mr. Sudhir Vyas, BOT Member and family



Birding sessions with Mr. Sudhir Vyas and family



Sensitising the students is a key element as they are supposed to grow up as responsible citizens of tomorrow and hence this was a key element in our campaign.

We put up a set of 6 banners with attractive captions on renewable energy in selected 14 schools within Thiruvananthapuram City. Launch of WWF Campaign for General Public as part of Akshaya Urja Utsav 2018 and Painting Competition for Children in association with YMCA Thiruvananthapuram Chapter on 25th February at the YMCA Hall at Statue. The painting competition was for children from Classes VI to IX. Three Urja Clubs in Thiruvananthapuram were also roped into this event to ensure adequate participation. But the turnout was rather poor because it is exam season. The prizes for the winners were given away in the closing function.

1.2.8 Common Bird Monitoring Programme (CBMP)

WWF-India Kerala State Office had coordinated the Common Bird Monitoring Programme in three southern districts, Pathanamthitta, Kollam and Thiruvananthapuram. We had organized Orientation Programmes for each district involving college students as participants under the VEP. The Orientation Programme for Pathanamthitta was led by Senior Education Officer and Sri. Hari Mavelikkara and Ms. Shameena, VEP Intern on 14th at Catholicate College, Pathanamthitta in which 38 students from 2 colleges participated. Sri. Hari Mavelikkara, Mr. Sujith V. Gopalan, Mr. Govind G. and Ms. Shameena led the Orientation at SN College, Kollam on 15th February 2018 in which 60 students from 4 colleges participated. The same in Thiruvananthapuram was led by Senior Education Officer and Mr. Govind G at Govt. Women's College, Thiruvananthapuram in which around 60 students were attended. All the leaders did the CBMP by themselves and prompted the others to involve in the exercise.

1.2.9 Earth Hour

Publicity & Promotion - The Earth Hour Team in Kerala did an extensive campaign across the State instead of focusing the entire energy on organizing major events in Thiruvananthapuram and Kochi. The efforts were started well in advance by the beginning of March itself. The initial efforts were all focused to get the word out on Earth Hour and establish maximum reach among the public via all available means. Letters were sent out to a long list covering individuals, institutions, NGOs etc. Other promotional activities done are promotion through regular mailing through our Yahoo and Google Mailing Groups, Facebook and Whatsapp Groups, Club FM with interviews of key persons, All India Radio, Press Conference called for in the Trivandrum Press Club.

Public Interaction Campaigns - Campaign were organized mainly during the evenings from 4.00 – 7.00pm in major locations like Statue & Palayam on 22nd & 23rd of March with the active involvement of our volunteers. Using stickers printed on the theme of Earth Hour, the volunteers interacted with the general public to make them understand about the significance of observing Earth Hour. Considering the suggestion that we received during the public interaction campaign in 2016, in the last year and this year, the captions in the stickers were translated into Malayalam for easy and better understanding of the general public.

Cyclothon in association with Indus Cycling Embassy - Indus Cycling Embassy has gained popularity in Thiruvananthapuram City and other parts of the State with their regular cycling programmes – which are good for health and good for the environment too. They have been partnering with many other agencies to show their solidarity and support to various causes. ICE has been regular supporters of WWF, especially Earth Hour, over the past few years. In this regard, Cyclothon was organized on the morning of 24th at 6.30am from Manaveeyam Road to Statue - Palayam - Kawdiar - Vellayambalam and back to Manaveeyam. Around 60 cyclists participated. The State Director addressed the gathering before the start of the Cyclothon. Members of CET Cycling Club and the students of LNCPE also participated in this year's EH Cyclothon. Breakfast was given to the participants on completion. As part of EH 2018, we also sponsored a cycle to be given to a deserving girl student, Abhiya, as part of the 'Gift a Cycle Campaign' of Indus Cycling Embassy. The cycle was given away by the dignitaries in the evening main function.

Walkathon in the Museum & Zoo Compound - Since the start of observing Earth Hour in Kerala, we have been organizing interactive programmes in the Museum & Zoo Compound to engage with the early morning walkers. This time also, on 24th morning a similar programme was organized with the active involvement of WWF Volunteers. Stickers to express their support and solidarity to Earth Hour were supplied to all the early morning walkers in the compound and they were all enthusiastic to put it on their t-shirts to express solidarity to the campaign.

Promotion of EH in Thrissur through the initiative of ACCER, KAU - Academy for Climate Change, Education and Research (ACCER) under Kerala Agricultural University took the initiative to observe Earth Hour 2018 in Thrissur. Mr. Tiju Thomas, Programme Co-ordinator, WGNL Programme, WWF-India took the lead in co-ordinating this. They put up maximum efforts to sensitise the public about Earth Hour and its significance and also observed Earth Hour in their hostel in the late evening with Switch Off and Candle Light Vigil.

EH Major Event - For the Earth Hour evening major function, Shanghumugham Beach was selected as venue because of the general public present in large numbers, especially being the weekend, and the great public support that we received for Earth Hour in 2016 and 2017. On the evening of 24th March, the event got off to a start at 6.30am with Ms. Joann Rachel Cherian compering the event and giving the introductory remarks including EH history, the global ongoing campaign, Earth Hour in Kerala since 2009, its relevance and organizing partners. The stage was then handed over to SoulJam led by Dr. Abhilash Jacob for their Musical Performance. The musical programme was thoroughly enthralling with SoulJam entertaining the crowd with a mix of English, Hindi, Tamil and Malayalam songs. The musical performance continued till 8.15am and within this time, WWF staff and volunteers made all necessary arrangements for the switch off and the candle light vigil. The musical performance was temporarily concluded by 8.15pm. Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director introduced Earth Hour 2018 and the organizing partners in Kerala and invited the guests. Dr. Vasuki, IAS, District Collector, Smt. Padma Mahanty IFS, Director, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sri. Dhreshan Unnithan, Director, Energy Management Centre, Dr. C. Bhaskaran, Member, WWF-India State Advisory Board were the Chief Guests for the event. The guests addressed the gathering and called for conserving

energy for a sustainable tomorrow. The Earth Hour 2018 Mementos to the organizing supporters and partners were handed over. The Free Cycle to Abhiya as part of the 'Gift a Cycle Campaign' of ICE was also given away by the guests. By 8.30pm, the high mast lights were switched off and the dignitaries lighted the EH 2018 main candle.

Switch Off - The major landmarks switched off were Raj Bhavan and Museum & Zoo Compound. Justice P. Sathasivam, Hon'ble Governor observed EH 2018 with switch off and candle light vigil at Govt. Guest House, Kozhikode. Shri. Pinarayi Vijayan, Chief Minister of Kerala observed Earth Hour with Switch Off and Candle Light Vigil along with his family at his official residence. EH 2018 was observed independently by few apartment complexes and Residents Associations also. Similarly, many such institutions, associations, households and individuals have joined in Earth Hour 2018 to make it a real success and a people's movement against climate change in its real sense.

1.3 Support to other Program Areas of WWF-India

1.3.1 WGNL Landscape Visit with Mr. Sudhir Vyas, Member, BOT, WWF-India

Mr. Sudhir Vyas, IFS, Member of the Board of Trustees of WWF-India visited the Western Ghats Nilgiris Landscape with his family from 6-10 April 2017. Mr. Tiju Thomas from the WGNL Team and the State Director and Senior Education Officer from the State Office accompanied Mr. Vyas on his visit and made all logistics arrangements for his travel, visits and accommodation. It was a really good learning and sharing experience. Mr. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer of the State Office, being an expert birder too, could share a lot of information with Mr. Vyas and had a great time of interaction. The sighting of the Ceylon Frogmouth at Thattekad was the highlight of the visit.

1.3.2 Shark Fin Trade Project under Marine Programme

The Marine Programme of WWF-India has initiated a project to assess the Shark Fin Trade in selected states of India including Kerala. A conference call was organized to share the details of this project. Mr. Vishnu, an intern has been posted in Kerala for the data collection as part of this project and the State Director had necessary discussions with Ms. Ema and Mr. Vishnu on how this work needs to be taken forward in a collaborative manner.

1.3.3 Reporting of Wildlife Trade & Mortality to TRAFFIC-India

The reports regarding the mortality and trade of wildlife have been compiled from newspapers and sent on 23rd May, 19th, 23rd and 27th June, 26th and 31st July, 10th and 14th August, 27th September, three reports on 13th and one report on 19th October, 17th November, 11th, 22nd and 28th December 2017 and 1st January 2018.

2. Environment Education Programs

2.1 EE Projects

2.1.1 Wipro earthian Programme 2017

Teachers Training Workshop - Two TTWs were conducted by the State Office in connection with the Wipro earthian Programme 2017, a CSR initiative of Wipro, implemented jointly by CPREEC and WWF-India in Kerala. The first one was held at Guruvayur in Thrissur district on 19th July 2017 and the second was on 21st at YMCA, Thiruvananthapuram. The thematic introductory sessions were led by the State Director and the Senior Education Officer. The project frame work was presented by Sri.U.T.Arasu, Senior Environment Education Officer of CPREEC, Chennai. The participant Teachers were asked to prepare a tentative project action plan to guide the students to come up with good projects. The third TTW was conducted at Dept. of Electronics in CUSAT Campus on 9th August 2017. Smt. Aarti Hanumanthappa of WIPRO earthian introduced the programme to the participant Teachers. The thematic sessions and introduction of the project framework were conducted as usual.

Orientation trip to Kallar - Ponmudi forests – The State Office conducted a single day Nature Orientation Trip to Kallar – Ponmudi forests on 21st October 2017 as a follow-up activity. The 23 member team were of students who were doing the projects, guiding teachers, volunteers led by the Senior Education Officer. Fortunately it was a day with heavy rain which helped them to have an experiential learning on sustainability of water and biodiversity, which are the focal themes of the programme. Senior Education Officer and volunteers helped them to identify the plants, birds, butterflies etc. and explained about the value of biodiversity.

Two-day Orientation Camp in Vazhachal forests – The State Office conducted a two-days Nature Orientation Camp at Vazhachal Forests in Thrissur District on 23rd and 24th October. The 20 member team were of students who were doing the projects, guiding teachers, volunteers and Senior Education Officer. The technical sessions were led by Sri. Tiju Thomas, Senior Programme Officer of WWF-India's WGNL Office and Ms.Shameena S., VEP intern. Sri. Babu and Subramanyan, Members of the Kadar Tribal Colony had interaction with the participants. The field trips were led by Senior Education Officer and volunteers.

Regional Recognition Event – The projects submitted by schools under our co-ordination won 2 out of the 10 national awards of Wipro earthian 2017. The school teams received their awards from Mr. Azim Premji, Chairman, Wipro in the function organised at the national level at Bengaluru. In connection with this, we conducted a Regional Recognition Event on 23rd January 2018 at YMCA, Thiruvananthapuram to felicitate the winning teams. 45 students with their Teacher Co-ordinators attended the event. It was inaugurated by Dr.C.Bhaskaran, our State Advisory Board Member. Sri. A.K.Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer, WWF-India welcomed the guests and participants and Sri.U.T. Arasu, Senior Education Officer, CPREEC, Chennai briefed on the Wipro earthian evaluation process. Sri. Sri. Babu K. Mathew, President, YMCA, Thiruvananthapuram presided over the meeting. Later, each school team presented their projects in brief and shared their ideas and concepts. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Sri. Reji Kunnumpuram, our well-wisher and YMCA Board Member. The projects were of very good quality and highly appreciated by all and the teams were encouraged to put the project into action.

Photo Gallery



Wipro earthian programme Teacher's Workshop at Thrissur



Teacher's Workshop at Thiruvananthapuram



Teacher's Workshop at Ernakulam

Photo Gallery



Wipro earthian programme Eco-Trail at Kallar



Wipro earthian programme Eco-Trail at Vazhachal



Wipro earthian programme – Regional Recognition Event at Thiruvananthapuram

2.1.2 Humane Education Programme

Teachers Training Workshop - A Teachers Training Workshop was conducted in Thrissur on the theme “Humane Education” with the support of CPREEC, Chennai on 22nd July in association with SSA. The workshop was inaugurated by Sri. Joymon, District Project Officer of SSA. Following to the inaugural session, Senior Education Officer led a session on ‘Urban Biodiversity’ and the issues and concerns on them. State Director led another session titled ‘Humans threatens others; whereas, Others sustains us – a closer look for a better understanding’. In the afternoon session they were grouped into six and asked to have a group discussion on the ways of implementing Humane Education in schools. It was very interactive and they presented for open discussion also. Finally each school prepared their own action plan and concluded the workshop. Each school has to conduct competitions on story writing, poster preparation and quiz.

Animal Welfare Mela - The conclusion of the Humane Education Programme of Animal Welfare Board of India organized by CPREEC, Chennai, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and WWF in Kerala was carried out by organizing the Animal Welfare Mela at the Museum & Zoo Auditorium, Thrissur. Students and their Teachers from 32 schools participated in the day’s event with a total participation of around 160. Story-writing, Poster design and Quiz competitions were organized at the school level and the winners from these three competitions attended the programme. Inter-school quiz was also conducted at the venue. The day’s event had the formal inaugural session in the forenoon, followed by storytelling, lunch and the inter-school quiz. The prizes for all the competitions were distributed in the event by the guests. The Inter-School Quiz was mastered by the State Director.

2.1.3 WWF-India Volunteer Engagement Programme

Workshop on Nature Interpretation Skill Development - Workshop on “Nature Interpretation Skill Development” was conducted at Periyar Tiger Reserve from 2nd to 4th March 2018 which was a joint venture of PTR and VEP of WWF India. 16 college teachers and 10 volunteers from different districts of Kerala made this workshop very interactive and result oriented. It was a three day residential one with the objective of Nature Interpretation Skill Development for associating teachers and volunteers. The three days workshop was charted out with classroom sessions and field activities. The sessions were handled by Mr. A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer, Sri. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director, Ms. Priya T. Joseph, Range Officer, PTR Eco Development, Mr. Pramod P., Wildlife Assistant, Dr. Gigi K. Joseph, Asst. Professor of Nirmala College, Muvattupuzha.

Climate Change Literacy Programme - Kerala State Office organized a two day event on Climate Literacy among students along with public. The event was held on 13th June at Naipunnya School of Management, Cherthala and was inaugurated by Sri. Isaac Madavana, Chairperson of Cherthala Municipality. The first technical session on Climate Change and Society was led by Sri. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director and the session on Ecological Footprints was by Sri. A.K.Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer. In the afternoon session, the students were divided into 5 teams and were asked to prepare placards on the theme, Climate Literacy based on the previous sessions. All the 75 participants made two placards each and a collection of 150 placards were ready by evening. On the next day

Photo Gallery



Humane Education Programme – Teacher's Training Workshop at Thrissur

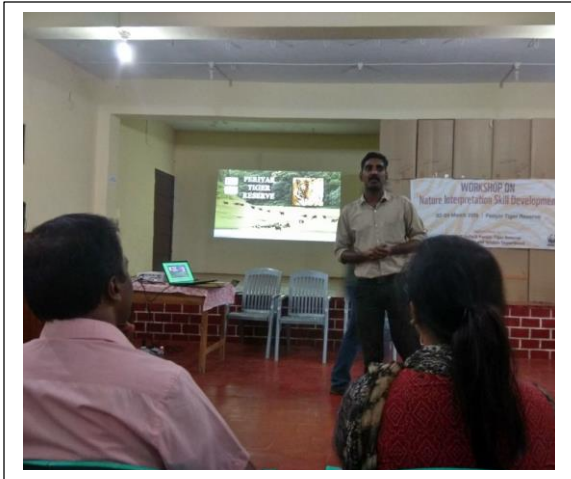


Humane Education Programme - Animal Welfare Mela at Thrissur



VEP – Workshop on Nature Interpretation Skill Development

Photo Gallery



VEP – Workshop on Nature Interpretation Skill Development



VEP - Climate Change Literacy Programme at Naipunnya School of Management



VEP - CCLP – Students participating in the placard making session

morning, the five teams displayed at different places of the town where people gather like major bus stops, temple, markets etc.

Teachers Training Workshop at Silent Valley National Park - Another event under VEP was organized at Silent Valley NP on 20th and 21st June which was a joint venture with the Park in which 29 School Teachers mainly from Palakkad, Thrissur and Malappuram participated. It was a two day residential workshop in which all the Teachers cum WWF Volunteer developed a resource material on the WED theme - Connecting Nature to People. The objective of the programme was introduced to the participants by State Director and Senior Education Officer. Sri. Abdul Basheer, Divisional Manager KFDC (Rtd.) led the initial interactive session. In the afternoon, Senior Education Officer led the session on Ecosystem Interpretation. Then all the participants were taken for a field trip to Bhavani River and they had hands on field experience of ecosystem interpretation. During the evening session, Smt. Shilpa V. Kumar IFS, Wildlife Warden addressed the participants. Following this, State Director led an activity session on caption making as a basis for the resource material preparation. It was quiet interactive and participatory. On the second day morning, the team was taken for a semi meditation programme, *Feel the Nature*. After breakfast, the entire team proceeded to Sairandhri, from where River Kunthi can be viewed. In the afternoon session, every participant made their own contribution in the form of a resource material and the same was compiled.

Initiation of Biopark - Under VEP, massive efforts have been initiated to convert the 20 cents of land owned by WWF-India at Vellayambalam, Thiruvananthapuram kept for the proposed Nature Education and Resources Centre into a Biopark beginning with the removal of invasive species like Mikania and Subabul Trees and other weeds. Fifty student volunteers of the NCC Unit of St. Joseph's School became part of the event held on 24th June. It was a tedious job to remove all these invasive plants and to make the land ready for planting native trees – mainly fruiting and flowering ones in addition to few tree species.

2.1.4 WWF-India Wild Wisdom Quiz

Kerala State Office took all possible initiatives for the follow-up of WWQ registration from schools across the State. The information was pushed out via SMS, sent emails and contacted many Teachers and Principals over phone also. This helped us to raise the number of registrations. The questionnaires also were sent out to all schools to conduct the school level quiz.

City-level Competition of Wild Wisdom Quiz was held at St. Mary's School, Pattom on 21st September. This year, being the 10th edition, the competition witnessed very good participation of around 43 school teams in the Junior category and 42 teams in the Middle category. Adnan Nishad and Aswas R. from Jyothis Central School, Kazhakkootam, emerged the winners in junior level with Abraham Tharakan and Indranil Menon from Devamatha Senior Secondary School, Thrissur and Ameya Madhavan V. & Niharika R. Menon from Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Poochatty bagging the second and third positions respectively. The Quiz Master of the day was Ms. Anjana Parameswaram from Thrissur. Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director and Mr. A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer led the organizing team comprised of WWF Volunteers and student volunteers from the NSS Unit of St Mary's

Photo Gallery



VEP - Teacher's Training Workshop at Silent Valley NP



VEP – TTW at SVNP – Field Visit



VEP – TTW at SVNP - Participants

Photo Gallery



VEP - Initiation of Biopark in Thiruvananthapuram



VEP – Biopark – Clearing of weeds and unwanted vegetation



VEP – Biopark – Addressing the participants

Photo Gallery



Wild Wisdom Quiz 2018 – Junior Category



WWQ 2018 – Junior Category Winners and Best Teacher-in-charge



WWQ 2018 – Middle Category

School under the able leadership of Mr. Santhosh. The Chief Guest of the day was Ms. Padma Mahanty, IFS, Director, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Govt. of Kerala, she gave away the prizes to the winners. One of the other surprising bonus for the entire audience was the provision of Ice Creams by Milma free of cost. In the Middle Category Quiz, Siddharth Renjith and Udaya Paul from Bharatiya Vidya Mandir, Eroor, Ernakulam emerged the winners with Gopu Gireesh & Jeremiah Mathew Darvy from Vimala Public School, Thodupuzha and Hrudayesh R. Krishnan & Thamanna Hari from St. Thomas HSS, Mukkola, Thiruvananthapuram coming in the second and third positions.

2.1.5 WWF-India One Planet Academy

Hands-on training and meeting at M/s. Cap Gemini - One Planet Academy (OPA) is one of the six pillars under WWF-India's National Environment Education programme. This provides a platform for teachers, students and any nature and environment enthusiast to interactively learn about nature and environment through an online resource hub. M/s Cap Gemini, an IT company based at Mumbai, is the supporter and developer of this online resource hub. They provided a two-days hands-on training and experience sharing session with the State Directors and Education Officers of WWF-India at their office on 3rd and 4th of August. State Director and Senior Education Officer became part of this venture which is proposed to be launched on 11 September.

Since the national launch of OPA was held at WWF-India Secretariat few weeks back, we are now gearing up for the launch of OPA in Kerala with the initial involvement of 20 schools. Senior Education Officer had a discussion with Sri. Anvar Sadath, Director of IT@Schools, Govt. of Kerala regarding the launch of OPA. He was very much interested to join with our initiative and showed interest to provide training session for all their 250 Master Trainers across the State.

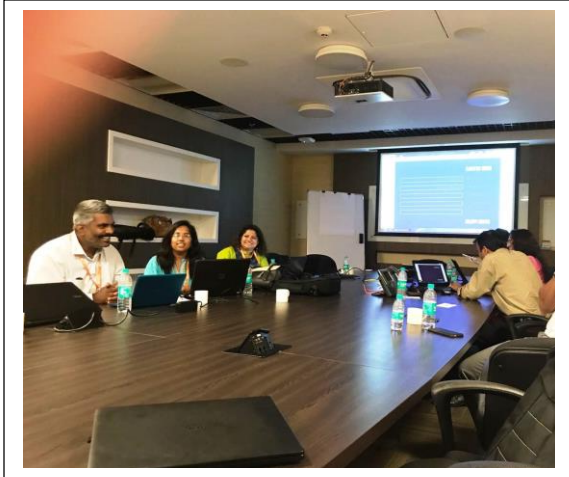
State level launch of OPA - This was held at Museum Auditorium, Thiruvananthapuram on 3rd November which was attended by 62 students from 12 schools of the City. Sri. Anvar Sadath, Director, IT@School of Govt. of Kerala delivered the inaugural address and launched the website. Sri. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director introduced the concept of OPA. Sri.K.Gangadharan, Director of Museums& Zoos mentioned that the topics included in the portal was highly relevant. The students take a pledge to save their natural resources and the Mother Earth. The Green Action Plan, the most important component for schools under this platform was briefed by Mr. A.K.Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer for WWF-India. Then the students went through the portal through the five independent LED screens attached laptops.

School Visits - Our five volunteers visited the participant schools in the OPA programme. It was for guiding them in registration, develop Green Action Plan and to clarify their doubts. They visited 11 schools and are waiting for the reopening after Christmas vacation.

2.1.6 Paaristhithikam – State Environment Awareness Campaign (SEAC)

Proposal reworking - Our proposal to address the waste dumping issue around Thiruvananthapuram International Airport Compound and related increase in bird hits on

Photo Gallery



One Planet Academy (OPA) – Training at Cap Gemini, Mumbai



OPA State-level Launch at Thiruvananthapuram



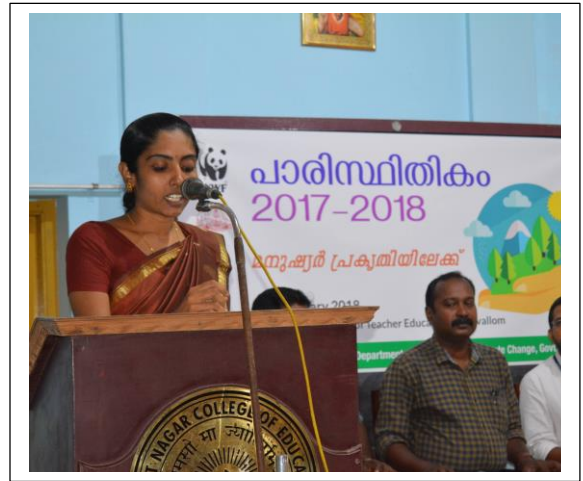
OPA – Students exploring the OPA online portal

airplanes was approved and funding allotted. But then the Thiruvananthapuram Airport Authority and Thiruvananthapuram Corporation is not coming to consensus with us on addressing this issue. In this background, we are left with no other option but to change the proposal. In this regard, necessary discussions were conducted with Mr. John C Mathew, Environment Program Manager of Dept. of Environment and Climate Change (DoECC) who is the Nodal Officer of Paaristhithikam and after an internal brainstorming, we have made a new proposal to address the unchecked dumping of waste, mainly plastic bottles, in Punchakkari wetland area, and after initial discussion with the Panchayat authorities and after getting their approval, the proposal has been submitted to DoECC for approval.

Awareness Programme - State Office conducted the awareness component of the Paaristhithikam, the State Environment Awareness Campaign on 21st February 2018 at Christ Nagar College of teacher Education at Thiruvallam near the action programme targeted location, Punchakkari wetlands. Mr. Sujith V. Gopalan, Researcher of Kerala State Biodiversity Board and Senior Education Officer led the sessions on “Biodiversity” and “Issues and Concerns” of Wetlands with special focus on Punchakkari wetland complex respectively. 55 teacher trainees and 5 teachers attended the programme and the action programme, the clean-up drive was planned for 28th March as they will finish all their examinations and get free.

Action Programme - Punchakkari Wetlands, the bird hub of Thiruvananthapuram City, got a much required facelift with the installation and unveiling of two litter bins exclusively meant for plastic and glass bottles and the function was followed by a clean-up drive organised by WWF-India as part of Paaristhithikam 2017-18 (State Environment Awareness Campaign) of Department of Environment & Climate Change in partnership with Christ Nagar College of Teacher Education and Kalliyoor Grama panchayat. The waste bins were unveiled by Smt. R. Jayalekshmi, President of Kalliyoor Grama panchayat. Mr. Jayan, Mr. Manoj K. Nair, Ward Members and Mr. Sanil Kumar, Councillor of Melamkode Ward of Thiruvananthapuram Corporation were also present in the function and they addressed the volunteers and appreciated the efforts taken to conduct the clean-up drive. They assured that the Panchayat will ensure the prompt and proper disposal of the collected waste by assigning the responsibility to a local resident. The Volunteer Birders of WWF-India who visits the area frequently for birding will also monitor the litter bins to ensure that they are used for the purpose intended. Mr. A.K.Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer of WWF-India who co-ordinated the event gave the introductory remarks. The litter bins have been fabricated in the shape of a bottle to remind the public to put the used bottles in it. It has been colored green to merge with the surroundings. Following the inaugural function, 38 Volunteers participated in the clean-up drive conducted in and around the Kannukalichal Canal. The Volunteers were split into three groups and they collected more than 150 plastic bottles and 3 large bags of plastic waste including liquor bottles, water bottles, soft drink bottles and few pesticide bottles along with a variety of other plastic wastes. The water bottles were mostly seen floating in the canal which really shows our careless attitude. The collected bottles were deposited in the newly installed bins as the person who manages the bin will get a small monetary benefit by selling them and this will be an added bonus for the person to meticulously carry out this work on a regular basis. The plastic waste collected in bags was removed from the area ensuring proper disposal. Encouraged with the outcome of this event, the College authorities have also ensured that they will plan few activities in

Photo Gallery



Paaristhithikam – Awareness Component



Paaristhithikam – Action Component – Installation of litter bins at Punchakkari



Paaristhithikam – Action Component – Cleanup Drive

association with WWF-India as part of their community living project as a follow up of this effort.

2.1.7 Urja Kiran – Energy Conservation Awareness Campaign (ECAC)

Revamping - Urja Kiran, the Energy Conservation Awareness Campaign of the State is run by Energy Management Centre. Over the past years since its inception, WWF has been an active participant in the scheme. In this regard, a meeting was called for by EMC to look at the possible revamping of the scheme for this year to make it more effective and efficient. The Senior Education Officer represented the meeting called for at the EMC Office on 11th July 2017. A brainstorming session was carried out within our office and a written set of suggestions from WWF was also tabled in the meeting.

Review Meeting - The Senior Education Officer participated in the district level review meeting of the NGOs who are implementing the Urja Kiran programme. The meeting was called by Centre for Environment & Development, State Resource Agency for the campaign.

Orientation Meeting - This year also we have submitted the proposal and they have accepted it and given funding to do programmes in three electoral constituencies in Palakkad District. The Regional Orientation Meeting organized at ANERT Office on 17 November was attended by Ms. Pushpakumari and Ms. Shameena.

Resource Person Training Programme - The State-level training of the resource persons was organized at EMC Office Auditorium on 4th December and Mr. Murukan Pareparambil, Mr. Harish Kumar and Ms. Shameena attended the training representing WWF. A brainstorming session was conducted internally within the office to come up with innovative ideas for the awareness and action programmes to be conducted as part of Urja Kiran in three electoral constituencies in Palakkad district in the month of January 2018.

Energy Conservation Rallies - Energy Conservation Rallies were conducted with college students in three legislative assemblies at Shornur, Pattambi and Thrithala on 12th, 13th and 14th of December 2017 respectively. Unlike previous year's approach of using cardboard placards for writing captions, we adopted an innovative approach in developing unique placards with different designs and attractive captions. The participants were properly oriented in advance with two technical sessions on 'Ecological Footprint' and 'Domestic Energy Conservation' so that they could be exposed to the concepts and come out with relevant and catchy captions for the placards. Imbibing the concept well through the sessions and using their own creativity, the participants prepared new placards which were truly customized and unique. The student participants very much owned up the programme by understanding the theme, thinking creatively, preparing the placards and taking part in the rally. We also adopted two novel approaches contributed by the student participants themselves, "A placard for my friend" and "A selfie with our placards". In the former, a student makes two placards, one for himself/ herself and another for his/her friend. This made the rally and placard making process very energetic and full of enthusiasm.

In the latter, groups were formed to develop placards, individuals complementing their strengths in making the placards, and once the placards were ready, they took a selfie with

Photo Gallery



Urja Kiran – Energy Conservation Rally at Pattambi



Urja Kiran – Energy Conservation Rally at Shornur



Urja Kiran – Energy Conservation Rally at Thrithala



Photo Gallery



Urja Kiran – Action Component at Pattambi, Shornur and Thrithala



the placards made by their group. This was quiet interesting as it created a very good group dynamism and made the rally very active and effective as they themselves fully conceived the concept of energy conservation and worked together to share the same to the general public also. The rallies were conducted in association with Nature Clubs and NSS Units of MPM SN Trust College, Kulappully in Shornur Constituency, Sree Neelakanta Govt. Sanskrit College, Pattambi in Pattambi Constituency, and Govt. Arts & Science College, Thrithala in Thrithala Constituency. All the three rallies were attended by more than 60-70 students in each site and they were fully involved in the rally and contributed with their inputs they got from the awareness sessions. The sessions were led by Sri. Murukan Pareparambil, approved resource person of EMC and Sri. A.K.Sivakumar.

Action Programme - The Senior Education Officer and Sri. Murukan Pareparambil, an active Volunteer led the three awareness programmes on Energy Conservation in which Kudumbasree members were the participants, six public campaigns targeting general public and three orientation programmes for the members of District Cooperative Banks on the schemes of Renewable Energy promotion by ANERT, Kerala. These programmes were conducted at the panchayat level incorporating the grama panchayats falling under the legislative constituencies, Shornur, Pattambi and Thrithala. These events were organized from 14th to 16th March 2018 at Ongallur, Pattithara and Thrikkadeeri panchayats in the above mentioned constituencies. All the programmes were inaugurated by elected representatives of the local LSGs including MLAs. It was a very grass root level public targeted programme highlighting energy conservation and climate change.

2.2 Commemoration of Environmentally Important Days

2.2.1 World Migratory Bird Day 2017

The World Migratory Bird Day 2017 was organised in association with MNHS and PUMA CNC of Malappuram with the support of Kerala State Biodiversity Board on 10th and 11th May 2017 at Govt. HSS Pookkottur and Kadalundi - Vallikkunnu Community Reserve. The awareness sessions were held on 10th at the School Seminar Hall and the bird watching session was held on 11th at the Reserve. The event was inaugurated by Smt. Saleena Teacher, President of Malappuram Block Panchayat. The session on 'Bird Migration' was led by Mr. A.K.Sivakumar and the session on 'Bird Identification and Documentation' was led by Dr. Jafar Palot, Scientist, Zoological Survey of India and Secretary of MNHS. The afternoon session involved all the participants as it was a group activity followed by presentation. On the second day, Sri. Vijesh Vallikkunnu of MNHS and Senior Education Officer led the students for bird watching in the Kadalundi - Vallikkunnu Community Reserve. As it was a rainy day, they had to be satisfied with less number of birds. The students thoroughly enjoyed the boating through the mangrove forests.

2.2.2 Observation of World Environment Day (WED) 2017

WWF-India, Kerala State Office observed World Environment Day (WED) 2017 at NSS Training College, Ottapalam with the support of Kerala State Remote Sensing and Environment Centre (KSREC), Govt. of Kerala on 5th June 2017. The programme was inaugurated by Sri.P.B. Nooh IAS, Sub Collector of Ottappalam in a function that was

Photo Gallery



World Migratory Bird Day – Inauguration and Technical Session



WMBD – Release of Poster



WMBD – Field birding



World Environment Day at NSS Training College Ottapalam



Photo Gallery



WED – Technical Session and Tree Planting Drive



WED at Navdeep Public School, Kollam



WED – Cleanup drive at Shanghumugham Beach with AMAS and KSBB

presided over by Dr. Leskshmi K. Nair, Principal of the College. He also released a series of six posters on the 2017 World Environment Day theme published in connection with the programme. Dr.K.P.Reghunatha Menon, Director of KSREC delivered key note address. He later released the Handbook on Wetlands “Minnumeenum Meenukkuttiyum” on the occasion. In line with the State Government’s call to become part of planting 1 Crore saplings across the State on World Environment Day, the guests, teachers and students planted 100 plus saplings in and around the college and hostel premises. The technical sessions on ‘Connecting Wetlands - Nature - People’ was led by the State Director, ‘Geoinformation Technology for Protecting Wetlands’ by Sri. Suresh Francis, Scientist, KSREC. Post lunch, activity session was arranged on remote sensing interpretation and introduction of the KSREC Mobile App on Asset Mapping.

The State Director was invited as the keynote speaker in the observance of WED by the Ecological Forum of CSI Christ Church, Thiruvananthapuram on 6th June 2017.

The State Director was invited as the Chief Guest in the observance of WED by the Navdeep Public School, Kollam on 7th June 2017.

The Shanghumugham beach in Thiruvananthapuram had a different set of visitors on WED morning. Wearing a pair of gloves and caps, a group of youngsters, armed with empty gunny sacks set out on cleaning the beach. The drive, initiated by Kerala State Biodiversity Board, saw the participation of students from Holy Angels, All Saints College, AMAS and the Volunteers of WWF. The objective was to create more awareness on the need to conserve biodiversity with focus on coastal and marine biodiversity. The members of the Holy Angels School’s Eco Club who participated in the drive found it to be a different experience. The team collected ten full sacks of waste. While the waste collected through the drive will be handed over to the corporation, the Biodiversity Board plans to continue the efforts.

2.2.3 International Tiger Day 2017

ITD was observed in association with Social Forestry Extension Unit, Kollam and Social Forestry Division, Pathanamthitta and SAS SNDP Yogam College, Konni on 28th July 2017 at the College. The event was inaugurated by Sri.P.K. Jayakumar Sharma, Deputy Conservator of Forests (Social Forestry, Pathanamthitta). Dr. Biju Pushpan, Principal of the College, State Director, Senior Education Officer and Dr. Kishore Kumar of the College, also spoke in the inaugural session. A series containing 5 Tiger Conservation posters also were released in the inaugural session. Session on ‘Vanishing Stripes of India’ was presented by the State Director followed by screening of documentary ‘India, Land of the Tiger’. In the afternoon session, Senior Education Officer conducted a quiz programme exclusively on Tigers. The PowerPoint presentation and Quiz was shared with the participants with the objective of holding the same programme in at least five schools in and around their colleges.

2.2.4 Remote Sensing Day

The National Remote Sensing Day was observed jointly by ISRO, ISRS & ISG with an awareness programme organized at All Saints College, Thiruvananthapuram on 12th August, 2017. The State Director delivered an invited talk titled “Geoinformation Technology for

Photo Gallery



International Tiger Day 2017 – Release of poster and Technical session ‘Vanishing Stripes’



Remote Sensing Day at All Saints College



Ozone Day at Carmel HSS, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram

Natural Resource Management” with case studies from WWF projects on species and habitats. After the session, there was an interactive session with the participants, mainly college students.

2.2.5 International Day for the Preservation of Ozone Layer 2017

Senior Education Officer was invited by the Dept. of Environment and Climate Change to lead a session on the theme “Environment Education” in connection with the observation of the Ozone Day organised by DoECC at Thiruvananthapuram on 16th September. Senior Education Officer presented the topic very well including all aspects of Environment Education and the need of emerging action out of it, with the help of a multimedia presentation and was well appreciated. The State Director also attended the event.

The State Director was also special invitee to the observation of the Ozone Day organized by AMAS Neyyattinkara on 19th September at Carmel Higher Secondary School, Vazhuthacaud.

Senior Education Officer was invited by CISSA, an NGO based at Thiruvananthapuram working in the field of Biodiversity Conservation for conducting a ‘Quiz on Environment’ in connection with the Ozone Day on 22nd September at Bharatiya Vidyapeedom, Parassala.

2.2.6 Rivers Day programme

WWF-India, Kerala State Office in partnership with the Association of Natural Science Teachers, University of Kerala conducted a Story-Writing Competition exclusively for Teacher Trainees. The focal theme was the threats faced by our rivers. The entries received will be reviewed and the best 30 will be compiled into a resource material with the name “Puzhayude Kanneerkkathakal”, published jointly by acknowledging the contributors also.

2.2.7 Wildlife Week

Senior Education Officer led a session on Wildlife of Kerala and its conservation on 5th October at Bharat Aviation Academy, Nedumangad. They had arranged an exhibition of biodiversity and wildlife also.

State Director and Senior Education Officer led an awareness session on Wildlife of Kerala and a Wildlife Quiz at Govt. Women’s College, Thiruvananthapuram on 13th October. The State Director led the session titled ‘Wildlife of Kerala - Issues & concerns’ with State specific examples. Senior Education Officer led the interactive quiz on wildlife.

2.2.8 Space Week

The State Director was invited by Kerala State Remote Sensing and Environment Centre, Govt. of Kerala to deliver a talk on “Geoinformation Technology for Natural Resource Management” on 10th October, 2017 as part of observing Space Week 2017 at Govt. HSS, Kumarapuram. The State Director addressed the full school in the morning assembly session and also delivered a technical talk to a select group of 80 students. Since the topic was rather new to the students, the presentation was followed by a interaction session.

2.2.9 World Wetlands Day 2018

Kerala State Office observed World Wetlands Day 2018 at Periyar Tiger Reserve which owns a large inland wetland, the Periyar Lake with rich biodiversity. We conducted this as part of VEP and in association with Periyar Tiger Reserve. The event was participated by more than 120 school/ college students and our volunteers. It was inaugurated by Smt. Silpa V Kumar IFS, the Deputy Director of Periyar East Division and Mr. A.K.Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer from WWF-India delivered the thematic address. A Quiz exclusively on “Wetlands” also was mastered by him in the afternoon. Sri. N. Sajeevan, Asst. Field Director (PTR), Mr. N. Ravindran, District Coordinator of Kerala State Biodiversity Board, Mrs. Priya T. Joseph, Range Officer (Eco Development), and Sri. Pramod P., Wildlife Assistant addressed the gathering.

The State Office was also invited to be part of the observance of World Wetlands Day 2018 by Dept. of Environment and Climate Change, Govt. of Kerala organized on 2nd February, 2018 at VJT Hall, Thiruvananthapuram. We put up a photo exhibition as part of the event. The State Director was also invited as judge to evaluate the entries of the Painting Competition organized as part of the day.

Senior Education Officer was invited to lead a session on Wetlands on 5th February 2018 at Fatima Mata National College and to evaluate the presentations of an inter-collegiate competition. Our volunteers Mr. Sujith V. Gopalan and Mr. Govind G. led the sessions on Wetlands and Issues and Concerns of Wetlands respectively on 7th February 2018 at SN College, Kollam.

2.2.10 World Forestry Day and World Water Day 2018

As part of VEP, Kerala State Office conducted an activity based sensitization on the theme “Forests & Water” through a workshop and rally titled ‘Vana Suraksha - Jala Suraksha Rally’ on 21st and 22nd March 2018, jointly commemorating World Forestry Day and World Water Day at JPM College of Arts & Science, Kattappana of Idukki district jointly with the College and the Social Forestry Wing of Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department. Recent studies have reported that the forest cover of Idukki is declining. The workshop was inaugurated by Sri. N. Ravindran, District Co-ordinator of Kerala State Biodiversity Board. An orientation on the importance of forests and water was given on 21st March to 60 Nature Club Members of the college by Sri. A.K.Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer and Dr. Johnykkutty J. Ozhukayil, Associate Professor (Rtd), MES College, Nedumkandam. After the morning session, the participants were asked to prepare the required collaterals for conducting a public rally on the next day. The participants made 60 placards and posters which were very attractive and carried messages to sensitize the public. On 22nd, the rally was conducted in the Kattappana Town from 10.00am to 11.30am covering a distance of 2 kilometers.

2.3 Sunday Bird Walk

The regular monthly birding programme was held at Punchakkari wetlands in the outskirts of Thiruvananthapuram city on 30th April 2017. Eighteen bird enthusiasts attended the bird watching programme and the team spotted around 55 species of birds including migratory

Photo Gallery



Ozone Day at Bharatiya Vidhyapeedom, Parassala

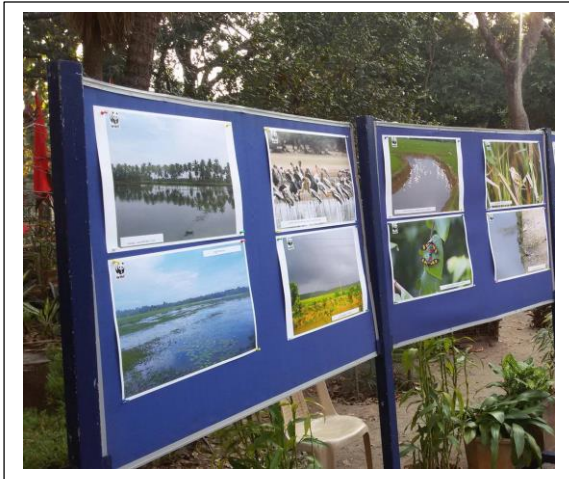


Space Week Programme at Govt HSS Kumarapuram, Thiruvananthapuram



World Wetlands Day at Periyar Tiger Reserve

Photo Gallery



World Wetlands Day Exhibition and Seminar in association with Dept of Env't and Climate Change



Vana Suraksha Jala Suraksha Campaign as part of World Forestry Day and World Water Day



Vana Suraksha Jala Suraksha Campaign

ones. Along with watching birds and their features, it was a chance to see and experience the values and services of wetlands also. Few of them purchased farm fresh agricultural products directly from the local farmers.

2.4 Nature Education Camps & Eco-Trails

2.4.1 Eco-Trail at Pathiramanal Island of Vembanad Lake

Members of Green Valley Nature Club from Puthuppally had a visit to Pathiramanal Island in Vembanad Lake on 29th April. Mr. Shibu Bhaskar, a renowned naturalist interacted with the participants on the history, biodiversity and threats of the island. They also did a clean-up drive in the island collecting a big heap of plastic bottles, carry bags and liquor bottles. The trail concluded with another interactive session on 'Eco-friendly Lifestyle' by the Sr. Education Officer.

2.4.2 Orientation Camp for birding volunteers at Thattekkad Bird Sanctuary

A team of 25 Volunteer Birders have been moving around across Thiruvananthapuram and Pathanamthitta districts for data collection in connection with the preparation of Trivandrum and Pathanamthitta Bird Atlas from July 2016 to March 2017. As a token of appreciation, WWF-India organized an Orientation Camp for our regular birding volunteers at Thattekkad Bird Sanctuary on 22nd and 23rd May 2017. 20 volunteers, 1 resource person and Senior Education Officer attended the camp. It was a real exposure for them to wild birding, slightly different from the ongoing Bird Atlas preparation and Waterbird documentation. The event turned out to be a get together of the birders from all the three southern districts where we are doing this programme i.e. Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam and Pathanamthitta. Though it was rainy days, the team listed out 77 species of birds. This was not only a capacity building programme for our Volunteers, but preparing a checklist of birds of this season for the benefit of the Bird Sanctuary.

2.4.3 Eco-Trail to Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary

Kerala State Office conducted an Eco-Trail to Chathancode forests falling under the Peppara WLS on 20th October 2017. 13 students and 2 teachers from L'ecole Chempaka participated in the trail which was led by the Senior Education Officer and two Volunteers, Govind and Shameena. The students were introduced to different type of vegetation, its biodiversity, values and services etc. They also interacted with the tribal people of the hamlets. Very different from their daily city life, the students had a very different learning experience really feeling the forests, taking bath in the cold waters of the rivulet within the forest etc. The participants expressed their gratitude to WWF-India for this different experience.

2.4.4 Nature Orientation Camp in Silent Valley National Park

Kerala State Office conducted a Nature Orientation Camp in Silent Valley National Park from 17th to 19th of November 2017. Ten nature enthusiasts, a volunteer and Senior Education Officer participated in the camp which was highly exciting. On the first day, the team had a visit to Dhoni Forests that was nourished with birding, visit to waterfalls and nature watch.

Photo Gallery



Eco-Trail in Pathiramanal Island of Vembanad Lake & Cleanup Drive



Orientation Camp for Birding Volunteers at Thattekad Bird Sanctuary



Birding Volunteers exploring the Sanctuary and interaction with Range Officer

Photo Gallery



Eco-Trail inside Peppara WLS for Students from Le'Cole Chempaka



Nature Orientation Camp inside Silent Valley NP



Camp participants exploring the Park

2.5 Classes and Lectures delivered

2.5.1 Orientation for participants of Summer School organized by Dept. of Museums & Zoos

A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer, Ms. Sharon and Ms. Sumayya, Interns led a detailed orientation for the participants of Summer School organized by Dept. of Museums & Zoos, Govt. of Kerala on 8th May at the Museum & Zoo campus. It included a technical session followed by nature games. It was very interactive, energetic and well appreciated.

2.5.2 Invited Talk at SSMHSS, Chavakkad

Senior Education Officer delivered an invited talk as an introductory session for the students of SSMHSS on Nature Conservation and Environment Protection on 22nd June. It was also for facilitating a discussion on developing a Volunteer Hub at Chavakkad under the leadership of Mr. James N.J. of the School.

2.5.3 Workshop on Environment Education at Velimanam St. Sebastian's HSS, Kannur

Kerala State Office and St. Sebastian's HSS, Velimanam at Kannur conducted a single day workshop on Environment Education along with a clean-up drive on the next day at the school. The workshop was inaugurated by Adv. Sunny Joseph, MLA of the locality. A session on Environment Education, its present trends and challenges was led by Senior Education Officer in the forenoon session followed by a session on stress management by Dr. Rosa M.C. of the school who is a Teacher Trainer also. In the afternoon session, the Teacher Trainees were divided into 5 groups and assigned to have a group discussion and present their findings in the form of any tool like mini drama, skit, song, story etc. They were given 45 minutes and came out with fantastic presentation of which all were a drama or skit. This activity session elevated their energy level and to have a recap on the sessions. On the second day Mr. Murukan Pareparambil, our Volunteer led a session on birds and butterflies to the students of the school and led the volunteer engagement to clean up the school campus by removing all the plastic wastes.

2.5.4 Talk at Govt. Engineering College, Thrissur as part of GIS Day

The State Director delivered a talk at Govt. Engineering College on the Basics of Geoinformation Technology and its Applications in Natural Resource Management with case studies from WWF work from the various landscapes as shared by IGCMC on 15th November. After the presentation, there was a long session of informal interaction with the student participants by clarifying their doubts and also discussing on possible future associations in our projects and programmes through internships and volunteering. The day's event was organized by Kerala GIS Community.

2.5.5 Talk at National Seminar on Biodiversity Conservation at University College

The State Director delivered a talk at Govt. Engineering College on the Basics of Geoinformation Technology and its Applications in Natural Resource Management with case

Photo Gallery



Orientation for participants of Summer School at Thiruvananthapuram Museum & Zoo



GIS Day 2017 at Government Engineering College, Thrissur



National Seminar on Biodiversity Conservation at University College, Thiruvananthapuram

studies from WWF work from the various landscapes as shared by IGCMC on 15th November. After the presentation, there was a long session of informal interaction with the student participants by clarifying their doubts and also discussing on possible future associations in our projects and programmes through internships and volunteering. The day's event was organized by Kerala GIS Community.

2.5.6 Class for the Refresher Course in Environmental Science

The State Director was invited to deliver the Opening Talk in the Refresher Course on Environmental Science organized by Human Resource Development Centre, University of Kerala at the Kariavattam Campus on 10 January. The 3 hour session was divided into two sessions dealing with 'Sustainable Development and Ecological Footprint' and 'Human-Wildlife Conflicts'. Around 80 College Teachers attended the programme.

2.5.7 Talk in the National Seminar at School of Indian Legal Thought, Kottayam

The State Director was invited to give the lead talk in the National Seminar on 'Transforming the world towards Sustainable Tomorrow: Concerns & Challenges' organized from 15 – 17 February, by SILT, MG University, Kottayam. The title of the talk was 'Conserve Wisely or Consume Carelessly? - The plight of species and landscapes in Kerala'. The talk was followed by a good time of interaction with the participants, mainly law students and their teachers.

2.5.8 National Seminar on Human - Wildlife Conflict

The State Director was invited to give the lead talk in the National Seminar titled 'Espousing the need for Eco-Governance of Forests & Wildlife' organised from 8 – 10 March 2018 at Govt. Law College, Ernakulam. The talk was titled 'Eco-centric Model of Conservation & Conflict Free Wildlife Management'. The talk was well received by the participants and was followed by a good time of interaction.

2.6 Participation in Exhibitions

2.6.1 Biodiversity Expo at Thalassery as part of Kerala Science Congress

Kerala State Office put up an expo on biodiversity and endangered species in connection with the Kerala Science Congress organized by TBGRI, Thiruvananthapuram from 26th to 30th January at Municipal Stadium, Thalassery.

2.6.2 WWF Exhibition at Kerala Legislative Assembly

Kerala Legislative Assembly was organizing the Diamond Jubilee Lecture Series and as part of this Shri. Jairam Ramesh was giving the talk on the topic "Role of LSGIs in the Protection of Environment and Sustainable Development" on 14th June. WWF along with other selected environmental agencies were invited to put up our exhibition stall at the venue. Mr. Harish Kumar, Administrative Assistant, Mr. Ilyas Mohammed, Volunteer and Ms. Swetha Pillai, Intern took the lead in putting up the exhibition.

Photo Gallery



National Seminar at School of Indian Legal Thought, Kottayam



WWF Exhibition Stall at Kerala Science Congress at Thalassery



WWF Exhibition Stall at Kerala Legislative Assembly, Thiruvananthapuram

2.7 Other Partnership Programmes

2.7.1 Programme for All Saints Congregation

Mother Francis of All Saints College had invited the State Director for a formal discussion to develop an Eco-Spirituality Programme for the sisters of the congregation which can span for a period of ten months. In this regard, a detailed discussion was carried out by the State Director with Ms. Sapna and Ms. Dhanalekshmi at KLSO Office. In this background, a draft programme spanning over 10 months, with individual theme for each month, has been developed and shared with the team. Further on, it was requested to develop a week by week programme for the first month and the same was also prepared and submitted. The 10 month long programme is proposed to be launched in January 2018.

2.7.2 Best Energy Saver's Competition

As part of their CSR initiative, Mott Mac Donald has requested WWF to partner for implementing this programme involving schools and their students in selected districts of Kerala. Necessary discussions are on with Mr. Madhu Babu from Mott Mac Donald and Mr. Dhareshan Unnithan, Director (Energy Management Centre) on how this can be taken forward as a joint venture. Official letters have been handed over to the General Education Department, Govt. of Kerala for formal permission to organize in Government Schools and to Energy Management Centre to organize it as a joint venture.

2.7.3 Tree Walk at Thrissur

WWF-India, Kerala State Office has a very good volunteer network in Thrissur district developed over the years with the lead being taken by Mr. Jain Therattil, Assistant Professor at St. Aloysius College. We arranged all the logistical and technical support and they took up the event as their own. Dr. Joby Paulose from Dept. of Botany, St. Thomas College took up the responsibility of organizing the Orientation Session in the College Auditorium itself and launch of the programme at Swaraj Round. Other volunteers and student volunteers from College of Dairy Science & Technology became part of the two-days programme, both for the launch and the field level Tree Walk on the next day morning. The State Director addressed the gathering of students and teachers in the launch event. Mr. Murukan Pareparambil, one of our active volunteer did all the ground work preparations.

2.7.4 Quiz Competition for Kerala State Biodiversity Board

The Senior Education Officer was invited to master the State level Quiz on Biodiversity for high school students which was organized Kerala State Biodiversity Board on 13th February 2018 at VJT Hall, Thiruvananthapuram. The quiz was conducted well and was very much appreciated by the Chairman of KSBB.

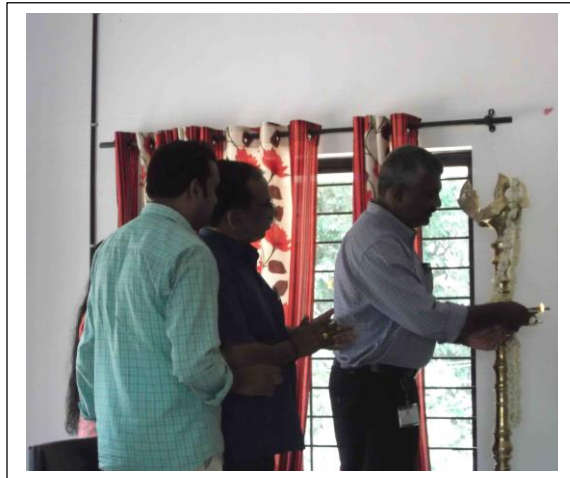
2.7.5 Inauguration of Nature Club of SN College, Chempazhanthy

The State Director was invited as Chief Guest to inaugurate the Nature Club at SN College, Chempazhanthy on 15th March 2018. The inaugural session was followed by a talk led by the

Photo Gallery



Launch of Tree Walk at Thrissur



Inauguration of the Nature Club at SN College, Chempazhanthy and Keynote Address



World Forestry Day 2018 at Chengannur Christian College

Photo Gallery



World Forestry Day 2018 at DB College, Pampa, Parumala



Exhibition arranged as part of World Forestry Day at DB College



World Water Day 2018 by Federation of Engineers of Kerala Water Authority at Thiruvananthapuram

State Director titled 'Conserve Wisely or Consume Carelessly? - The plight of species and landscapes in Kerala'.

2.7.6 World Forestry Day 2018

WWF was invited to be part of the observance of World Forestry Day 2018 at DB College Pampa, Parumala and Christian College, Chengannur in functions organized in the forenoon and afternoon respectively. The full exhibition set of WWF developed over the years was exhibited in both the venues. The State Director was the Chief Guest in both the functions and delivered the talk titled 'Forests: Primarily for Wildlife, then for People'.

2.7.7 World Water Day 2018

The State Director was invited to give the keynote address in the observance of World Water Day organized by the Federation of Engineers of KWA (FEKWA) at Jala Bhavan, Vellayambalam on 22nd March. The State Director was also invited as a guest to the observance of World Water Day by Kerala Sasthra Vedi in the event organized in the auditorium in Pettah on the same day.

3. Policy and Advocacy level interventions

3.1 Protection of Marine Turtles

A comprehensive write-up has been prepared in the vernacular language Malayalam with regard to the Marine Turtles along the Indian and Kerala Coast, especially with details of Marine Turtle nestings along Kerala Coast, the Local Marine Turtle Conservation Groups working in this regard, issues, challenges, possibilities etc. gained from our recently concluded one year long project titled Marine Turtle Conservation along Kerala Coast. This has been prepared and shared with Mr. Peter to be put in the Alakal Newsletter, a fortnightly newsletter of KSMTF, which goes out among the fishermen community.

3.2 Solid Waste Management within Thiruvananthapuram City

The Capital City does not have a proper solid waste management system as of now. This is very disturbing and polluting. There are many unnecessary developments in this regard like unnecessary clearing of grass cover between roads and drains, burning of leaf litter and other unsegregated waste, sweeping of litter over drain covers and clogging of drains, burning of unsegregated waste from shops etc. In this background, a detailed representation in the vernacular language Malayalam was prepared and submitted to the Mayor, Thiruvananthapuram Corporation for necessary action.

3.3 Workshop on Environmental Law and Litigation by CEL

State Director and Senior Education Officer attended the two day workshop for WWFIndia Officials held at Coimbatore from 19th to 21st May 2017 organised by CEL division of WWF-India. It was really a very good capacity building programme to learn how to incorporate environmental laws in conservation related issues. The interaction with Adv. Ritwik Dutta, Adv. Neeraj Vagholikar, Adv. Santhanaraman and Mr. Mohanraj were really beneficial. The workshop was organized in the most effective manner mixing both technical sessions, activity sessions and open discussions.

3.4 Workshop on GM Crops

Bhoomitra conducted a discussion on GM Crops on 7th of June. The focus of the discussion was to present the merits and demerits of GM crops to a group of environmental enthusiasts. Both the sides of the arguments were well presented by the main speakers i.e., Mr. Sridhar and Dr. G M Nair. The workshop was attended by Ms. Swetha Pillai, Intern and she has submitted a report to the State Director with details on the discussions and deliberations of the workshop.

3.5 Workshop on SDG (14) Life below Water

The State Director attended the two days' Workshop on Sustainable Development Goal 14 – Life below Water with major emphasis on Marine and Coastal Ecosystem organized by WWF-India jointly with NITI AAYOG and CMFRI at Kochi on 4th & 5th July, 2017 and took active participation in the discussions and deliberations. The thematic group discussions were very fruitful in which all the individual participants could contribute. Dr Sejal Worah,

Photo Gallery



Article on Marine Turtle Conservation in Alakal Newsletter



CEL Workshop at Coimbatore



Workshop on SDG 14 at CMFRI, Kochi



Workshop on Impact of GST in Fisheries Sector



Workshop on Cyclone Okhi and Way Forward

Ms. Vishaish Uppal, Ms. Ema Fatima, Mr. Vinod Malayilethu from WWF-India attended the workshop.

3.6 Impact of GST in the Fisheries Sector

A meeting was convened on 13th July 2017 at the Press Club by KSMTF, NFF and DSGAFU to discuss the impact of GST on the fisheries sector. On invitation, the State Director attended the meeting and addressed the gathering and shared the concerns about the new GST regime and how it affects the fisheries sector. The necessary inputs were taken from Mr. Vinod Malayilethu, Senior Co-ordinator, Marine Programme before the meeting itself.

3.7 Regional Advocacy Meeting on Road Safety

Centre for Environment and Development and CUTS organized the meeting at Hotel South Park on 14th July 2017. Since this is not our mandate, a brainstorming session was carried out and the valid points with regard to road safety from the environment perspective was compiled as a WWF submission and shared with the organisers.

3.8 Kerala Legislative Assembly Subordinate Legislative Committee Consultation

The Consultation Meeting was organized by Kerala State Biodiversity Board at the MSSRF Office Auditorium in Kalpetta, Wayanad on 25th July 2017. Mr. Vinayan, Field Officer, WGNL Programme attended the meeting on behalf of WWF-India and submitted the submission jointly prepared by the State Office and the WGNL Programme Office.

3.9 Discussion with Ms. Darly, Professor of Intl. Development Studies, Norway

She is here in Kerala to understand the environmental issues of the State and how different sections of the society, i.e. Government, NGOs and the public are dealing with it. In this regard, she held a detailed discussion with the State Director at the Kerala State Office on 27th September to understand WWF's work in the State and how it has changed over the last 10 years based on change in politics, Government, policies etc.

3.10 Talk on Coastal Biogeography and the Biogeography of Jellyfish Bloom

The State Director was invited to the talk organised by Dept. of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries, University of Kerala at University Senate Chamber on 3rd October 2017 by Prof. Michael N. Dawson, School of Natural Science, University of California, Merced, USA. The State Director attended the event and took part in the discussions and deliberations and shared our concern on jellyfish bloom especially in the background of our recent project on 'Marine Turtle Conservation in Kerala'.

3.11 Inclusion in CAMPA Executive Committee

We have received intimation from the Government that WWF-India is included as one of the two NGO representatives in the Executive Committee of CAMPA under the Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department. The State Director attended the Executive Committee

Meeting called by the PCCF & HoFF on 6th February and took active participation in the discussions and deliberations.

3.12 Cyclone Okhi and Way Forward

The State Director attended the meeting called forth by National Fishermen Federation and Kerala Swathanthra Matsya Thozhilali Federation on 16th December at Fourth Estate Hall, Trivandrum Press Club and took active participation in the discussions and deliberations.

3.13 Revision of PBRs

The Kerala State Biodiversity Board is in the process of plugging the data gaps in the People's Biodiversity Registers prepared for the Local Self Government Institutions in Kerala. The Chairman Mr. S.C. Joshi IFS had an initial discussion with the State Director on how this can be accomplished, and based on his special request, a concept note on how this can be achieved within a short time frame with a totally participatory approach of involving local people and local NGOs acting as facilitator was prepared and submitted.

3.14 Proposed IMA Biomedical Waste Treatment Plant

Indian Medical Association's Division called IMA Goes Eco-Friendly (IMAGE) is proposing a second biomedical waste treatment plant at Elavupalam in Palode lying within the Western Ghats for collecting and disposing biomedical waste from various facilities in the four southern districts of Kerala. This has been brought to our attention by institutions and individuals asking WWF to speak against this. All the related documents were downloaded from the KSPCB website and reviewed and detailed discussions carried out. CEL is also advising us on how to go forward. The State Director and Senior Education Officer visited the site on 29 December accompanied by Mr. Sali Palode, a retired School Teacher, a lead environmentalist and a primary stakeholder of the region. The area is legally Revenue Land but is bordered by Reserve Forests, Forest Plantations and very healthy and extensive Myristica Swamps. The area has very good mixed vegetation with good fauna diversity including mammals, birds, butterflies and many others. We have met the Director of JNTBGRI and also appraised him of the situation and specially put in the request for JNTBGRI also to be represented in the Public Hearing. Further on, we have prepared the WWF Submission in consultation with CEL and attended the Public Hearing organized at Peringamala on 3 January 2018 and handed over the WWF submission against the project to the Nodal Officer of Kerala State Pollution Control Board.

3.15 Waste dumping around Thiruvananthapuram Airport

The issue was brought to the attention of Ms. Padma Mahanty, IFS, Director, Dept. of Environment and Climate Change, Govt. of Kerala with the State Director visiting her in her office and elaborating the seriousness of the issue with real time photographs from the field. She has asked us to give updated photographs with details so that she can take it up with the Additional Chief Secretary (Environment) and bring it to the attention of the Government and call for swift and stern action.

Photo Gallery



Site visit to the proposed IMA Biomedical Waste Treatment Plant at Peringamala near Palode



Proposed site with good mixed vegetation and Myristica Swamp



Waste dumping and bird menace in and around Thiruvananthapuram Airport

4. Networking

4.1 Biodiversity Project Interact-Bio in Kochi

ICLEI, Delhi has invited WWF-India Kerala State Office to be a partner in their upcoming project Interact-Bio to be implemented in Kochi funded by the Federal Republic of Germany. Ms. Monalisa and her team from ICLEI came down for an initial discussion on the project. Further on, the State Director was invited to the Stakeholder Consultation Workshop held at Grand Hotel, Kochi on 27th October. The State Director had compiled a WWF Approach Note on the project and tabled the same in the meeting and also participated in the deliberations.

4.2 Workshop on National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

The State Director was invited by Kerala State Biodiversity Board to the workshop organized on 20th October at Govt. Guest House, Thycaud. The State Director shared many of our findings from our previous experiences and also participated in the deliberations.

4.3 Paper on realigning Social Forestry Division of Kerala Forests and Wildlife Dept

Mr. Anil Bharadwaj, IFS, PCCF (Social Forestry) invited the State Director for a meeting and requested for a document to be prepared on how the Social Forestry Division can be realigned to the broader concept of Protection of Biodiversity outside Forest Areas rather than just . Based on the discussions with Dr Sejal and Mr. Vinod, the State Director put together the paper and submitted it to the PCCF's Office for consideration.

4.4 Technical Workshop on Elephant Conservation

The State Director attended the two days Technical Workshop on Elephant Conservation organized by MoEF&CC jointly with WWF and others and hosted by Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department on 11th and 12th January 2018 at Hotel Apollo Dimora, Thiruvananthapuram. Mr.Boominathan, Mr. Ajay Desai and Mr. Mohan Raj from WWF was also present in the workshop. It was a really great learning and sharing experience and useful platform to interact with the experts in Elephant Conservation and also senior most officers of the Forests and Wildlife Department of the three southern states.

4.5 Kerala Renewable Energy Congress 2018

As part of Akshaya Urja Utsav, Centre for Environment and Development organized the first Kerala Renewable Energy Congress at Kanakakunnu, Thiruvananthapuram from 26th to 28th February. The State Director attended the congress and took active participation in the discussions and deliberations. The awards to the winners of the painting competition organized by WWF as part of the event was also given away by the Minister in the final day Akshaya Urja Award Function.

Photo Gallery



Stakeholder Consultation Workshop on Biodiversity Project Interact-Bio in Kochi



Technical Workshop on Elephant Conservation at Thiruvananthapuram



Kerala Renewable Energy Congress 2018

5. Publications

5.1 Mruthika Newsletter

The four issues of the Kerala State Office bimonthly newsletter Mruthika i.e. Sept-Oct 2016, Nov-Dec 2016, Jan-Feb 2017 and March-April 2017 have been drafted with the help of interns.

5.2 Article about the environmental issues of Munnar

Based on the State Director's visit to Munnar from 6 – 10th September, an article has been penned down titled 'Munnar Woes' detailing the environmental issues faced by Munnar because of the over exploitation of unregulated tourism.

5.3 Story titled "My Tryst with Turtles"

Over the last one year, the Kerala State Office with the main involvement of the State Director has been heading a project titled 'Marine Turtle Conservation along the Kerala Coast'. Based on the field observations, experience sharing and learnings, an article in the form of a story with the title "My Tryst with Turtles" has been penned down and along with the related photos and video clippings, the same has been sent to Ms. Rituparna Sengupta, Communications Division, WWF-India to be published as a story on the WWFIndia website.

5.4 Article on Tiger Conservation in Aranyam

As part of the International Tiger Day in July, the Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department brought out a special issue of their monthly magazine 'Aranyam' on the topic of Tiger Conservation and the lead article was contributed by the State Director.

6. Internship

6.1 Sharon Koshy, Christ University, Bengaluru

Sharon's internship period was from 20th April to 23rd May, 2017 and during her internship period, she has mainly worked to:

- (i) Compile the Monthly Activity Reports of Kerala State Office into the Annual Report 2016-17. She has done an exemplary work of compiling the contents under various headings and editing wherever necessary to avoid repetition and give it the necessary flow to make it interesting for the reader.
- (ii) Compile text and related images on the various interconnected themes for 27 exhibition panels to be designed under the consultancy project 'Setting up of a Honeybee Museum in Thenmala' awarded to WWF by Thenmala Ecotourism Promotion Society.
- (iii) Compile text and images and other necessary articles for the three issues of the bimonthly newsletter 'Mruthika' of WWF-India Kerala State Office.

6.2 Sumayya, Mar Gregorios College of Law, Thiruvananthapuram

Sumayya's internship period was from 24 April to 19 May 2017 and during her internship period, she has mainly worked to:

- (i) Prepare a comprehensive project proposal for WWF to organize a 'Water Conservation Campaign' across Kerala especially in the background of this year's major deficit in monsoon rainfall and related drought conditions. As part of this work, she has done library referencing, secondary data collection, review of media articles and other published write-ups.
- (ii) Carry out an Impact Assessment of the Ban on Plastic Carry Bags in Thiruvananthapuram City. As part of this work, she has done library referencing, secondary data collection and carried out primary data collection using questionnaires covering various stakeholders like shops, commercial establishments, households, street vendors, municipal waste handlers, plastic manufacturers and the Thiruvananthapuram Corporation including a face-to-face interaction with the Mayor. She has prepared a comprehensive report on the findings and she has come out with an article in Malayalam with the intent of publishing it in any of the leading dailies in Kerala to bring it to the attention of the public.

6.3 Renjana, Law Academy, Thiruvananthapuram

Renjana's internship period was from 16th to 30th May, 2017 and during her internship period, she has mainly worked to:

- (i) Review the National Marine Fisheries Policy 2017 and representing WWF attend the Round Table Discussion organized on 22nd May 2017 at Press Club by KSMTF & NFF.
- (ii) Review the Coastal Regulation Zone Act and related notifications and amendments and understand the intricacies for the State of Kerala.
- (iii) In the background of the Workshop on 'Environmental Laws and Litigations' held at Coimbatore organized by Centre for Environmental Law (CEL) of WWF-India, compile the details on the recently completed and ongoing environmental litigations in the Supreme Court and National Green Tribunal (NGT) including brief summary and court verdicts and also collate other related information on Central and State Government

institutions, authorities, committees etc. working in connection with environmental clearances and approvals for development projects in the country.

6.4 Swetha Pillai, SIMC, Pune

Swetha's internship period was from 15th May to 23rd June, 2017 and during her internship period she has mainly worked to:

- (i) Compile a video presentation of our projects, programmes and activities titled '*WWF-India Kerala State Office: 2006 to 2016 – Ten Years in Ten Minutes*'.
- (ii) Compile text and related images on the 27 themes for the exhibition panels to be designed under the consultancy project '*Setting up of a Honeybee Museum in Thenmala*' awarded to WWF by Thenmala Ecotourism Promotion Society.
- (iii) Attend the half-day workshop on '*Genetic Modification of Crops*' organized by Bhoomithra on 7th June 2017 at Press Club Hall, Thiruvananthapuram and take part in the discussions.
- (iv) Conduct telephonic interviews of candidates who have applied as interns for Wild Wisdom Quiz and Volunteer Engagement Programme evaluating the various aspects of the candidate like flexibility, innovation, language fluency, computer proficiency etc.
- (v) Compile the database of schools with their full address for sending out collaterals for the upcoming Wild Wisdom Quiz – the only national level wildlife quiz in the country.
- (vi) Assist in putting up the WWF Exhibition Stall in the Kerala Legislative Assembly on 13 & 14 June 2017 as part of their Diamond Jubilee Lecture Series.

6.5 Evangel Rajan, LBS Institute of Technology for Women, Thiruvananthapuram

Evangel's internship period was from 27th June to 6th July, 2017 and during her internship period she has mainly worked to:

- (i) Prepare a multimedia presentation on 'Environmental Stewardship in Our Religions' covering the 5 main religions including Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism and Jainism. She has comprehensively reviewed the secondary information available about it from different sources and created the presentation in a very simple manner with relevant text and images.

6.6 Bincy M Raj, LBS Institute of Technology for Women, Thiruvananthapuram

Bincy's internship period was from 27th June to 6th July, 2017 and during her internship period she has mainly worked to:

- (i) Prepare a multimedia presentation on the 'UN Sustainable Development Goals' which has 17 Goals with 169 Indicators. She has comprehensively reviewed the information available about the UN SDGs on the different web platforms and created the presentation in a very simple manner with relevant text and images which can easily be understood by a layman.

6.7 Sherin Joseph, Sree Chithra Thirunal College of Engineering, Thiruvananthapuram

Sherin's internship period was from 27th June to 6th July, 2017 and during her internship period she has mainly worked to:

- (i) Prepare a multimedia presentation on the new and emerging concept of 'Gross National Happiness' for which Bhutan has been the world leader. She has comprehensively reviewed the secondary information available on different web platforms and created the presentation in a very simple manner with relevant text and images which can easily be understood by a layman.

6.8 Justin

Mr. Justin is a School Student and he is doing an assignment on Tiger Conservation in India and Project Tiger. He had a lot of questions on this. This was shared with us and the State Director provided the necessary information.

6.9 Teena Thomas, XIME Bengaluru

Teena's internship period was from 18th to 28th December, 2017 and during her internship period she has mainly worked to:

- (i) Prepare the collaterals including PowerPoint presentation, Posters and Quiz on Energy for the outreach among different sections of the society as part of Earth Hour 2018 – the world's biggest people's campaign led by WWF addressing the issues of global warming and climate change and promoting energy conservation and shift to renewable energy as the solution to mitigate it.
- (ii) Review the WWF-International Campaign titled 'Food Waste Warriors' by understanding the concept, approach and methodology and also analyse the various collaterals for the outreach and prepare a Concept Note that WWF-India can pitch to a Corporate and secure funding as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility mandate.

7. Proposals Prepared and Submitted

7.1 Project on Assessment of Renewable Energy Interventions

ANERT had invited WWF to take up this project to understand the impacts of renewable energy interventions carried out in the remote parts of Idukki and Palakkad districts in Kerala in the past and to understand the attitude and perception of the local people towards the same and chart the way forward. The proposal titled 'Assessment of the impacts of RE interventions over the years among the most backward communities of Thrissur, Palakkad and Wayanad districts in Kerala' have been prepared and submitted to the office of the Director, ANERT. He has acknowledged receipt of the proposal and has informed us that it is being reviewed internally before submitting to MNRE.

7.2 Proposal on Impact of Ockhi Cyclone

In response to the Call for Concept Notes from Azim Premji University on research proposals under their four themes, a concept note has been prepared after much consultation and deliberation through a consortium led by WWF with Friends of Marine Life and Dept. of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries, University of Kerala as partners on a 'Study of the Impact of Ockhi Cyclone in southern Kerala'.

7.3 Awareness Programme Scheme of DoECC

The Dept. of Environment and Climate Change has called for proposal under their Awareness Programme Scheme. WWF jointly with Friends for Marine Life has submitted a proposal for organizing Scuba Diving Training for Coastal Youth which can really aid in observing and documenting the coastal and marine environment and its changes mainly due to large scale development activities like sea wall construction, setting up of ports and harbours etc.

7.4 Possible joint programmes with Kerala State Biodiversity Board (KSBB)

Reviewing the mandate of the Board, the State Director has written a formal letter to Mr. Dineshan Cheruvat, Member Secretary, KSBB listing out possible joint programmes that WWF-India and KSBB can take up with fits our shared mission of nature conservation and environment protection.

7.5 Proposal on 'Mapping of Biodiversity Rich Areas outside Forests'

Based on the interest expressed by Ms. Padma Mahanti, IFS, Director, Dept. of Env't. & Climate Change, Govt. of Kerala for WWF to undertake a comprehensive work on 'Mapping of Biodiversity Rich Areas outside Forests', a letter has been sent requesting clarification on how to move forward in preparing and submitting a detailed proposal on the same.

8. Fundraising

8.1 Tapping into CSR initiatives

- Discussions have been initiated with Nest Information Technologies on possible partnering with our work under their CSR mandate. Few concept notes have been shared with them.
- Discussions have been initiated with Apollo Tyres Pvt Ltd on possible partnering with our work under their CSR mandate. A concept note on 'Promoting Global Environmental Sustainability – A Roadmap for Apollo Tyres in Kerala' have been shared with them.

8.2 Sales of WWF-India Conservation Products

The WWF-India Conservation Products Catalogue for 2018 has reached the State Office in limited numbers i.e. 50 nos. Along with the covering letter of the State Director, the same has been dispatched to our primary list. The catalogue was redesigned into a one-sheeter with double side printing and 200 copies of the same was printed and along with the covering letter dispatched to our secondary list consisting of contacts from our wider network within the State. All possible follow-up over phone and personal interactions is being carried out for the promotion of sales of WWF-India Conservation Products, mainly seasonal products at this time of the year. But generally, the sales is very low, many customers attributing it to slump in their business because of the new GST regime.

9. Other Activities

9.1 State Offices Network Meeting

The State Director attended the two-days State Offices Network Meeting called for by the Secretary General & CEO at WWF-India Secretariat on 21st and 22nd August. After the meeting a review and brainstorming session was organized within KLSO to discuss strategies to align our work to the WWF global priorities.

9.2 Purchase of LCD Projector

A new LCD Projector have been purchased at KLSO with the financial support given by SG & CEO from WWF-India Secretariat. This will really go a long way in effectively and efficiently conducting our environment education, awareness and outreach programmes.

9.3 KLSO Annual Report 2016-2017

This has been completed and printed. Hardcopies have been sent to the Secretariat and softcopies sent to the network.

9.4 Revival Plan for State Advisory Board

The State Director prepared the Revival Plan for the State Advisory Board and has shared it with the HR Director for further discussion and action.

9.5 Republic Day 2018

Flag hoisting was carried out on 26th January in the office with the participation of staff and volunteers. Sweets were also distributed.

9.6 Women's Day 2018

As per the directive from the Secretariat, Women's Day was observed in the State Office by felicitating the women staff, Ms. Pushpakumari and Ms. Shameena by giving a sapling and also a gift. Lunch was also arranged in office as part of the day.

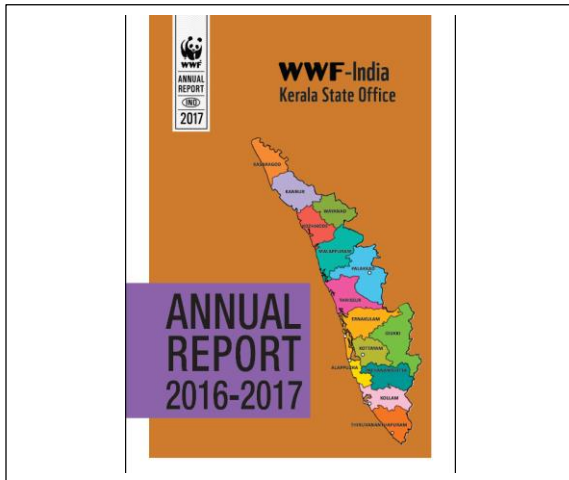
9.7 Training on Annual Performance Process at Bengaluru

All the staff of Kerala State Office travelled to Bengaluru on 16th March to attend the Annual Performance Process Training organized by WWF-India HR Division.

Photo Gallery



State Offices Meeting in WWF-India Secretariat



KLSO Annual Report 2016 – 17



Flag hoisting on Republic Day at KLSO



International Women's Day at KLSO



Annual Performance Process Meeting



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.

www.panda.org

**World Wide Fund for Nature – India
(WWF-India)
Kerala State Office**

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