

MAKE A DIFFERENCE WEEK EVENT

JUNE 2022



Coordinator
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Organized by
CEtC Hornbill Foundation
MES Asmabi College
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“Local Genepool in Local Nurseries for Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Resilience”

MAD Week 2022 with the Society for Ecological Restoration (SER)

7th – 10th June 2022



MAD WEEK ON WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2022

The Western Ghats Hornbill Foundation celebrated World Environment Day by launching Make a Difference Week (MAD week) event with local and global partners announcing a yearlong campaigns, actions and workshops on ecorestoration. Ecological Restoration could be a key for Living Sustainably in Harmony with Nature in the only one earth. We collaborate with local bodies, institutions, CBOs and individuals to spread the messages of ecorestoration this year. Our flagship program is to promote the message of ecorestoration through spreading the necessity of "Local Genepool in Local Nurseries for Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Resilience" which was launched on 7th June 2022.

The programme was launched by Mrs. R. Lakshmi Divisional Forest Officer, Vazhachal Forest Division, Kerala Forest Department in a function at the Centre for Ecology, Taxonomy, Conservation and Climate change (CEtC) of Western Ghats Hornbill Foundation (WGHF) at Research Department of Botany, MES Asmabi College Campus, Kodungallur Kerala. She briefed about the uniqueness of evergreen forest in the Western Ghats and the role of forest in contributing to the sustenance of living organisms across the world. She also conveyed the need to restore and conserve our wilderness citing technical and research support provided by Hornbill Foundation in planning and implementation of niche specific ecorestoration in the Vazhachal Forest region especially for restoring degraded riparian forest, threatened tree species habitat and hornbill habitat.





The event was officially launched with a video message from Mr. John Salisbury, the programme associate of SER revealing the MAD week event across the globe and the importance of this event organized from India. Mr. Rajesh K.R., member representative of SN Puram Grama Panchayath shared his experience regarding the ongoing coastal restoration actions in the SN Puram Grama Panchayath in collaboration with Hornbill Foundation and the role of MNREGA rural employment guarantee scheme of the government. Dr. A Biju, Principal of MES Asmabi College addressed the importance of World Environment Day and the various ongoing activities of the college in collaboration with Hornbill Foundation in eco-restoration programmes.



The occasion was felicitated by Mr. Salim Arakkal, Secretary and Correspondent of MES Asmabi College followed by Dr. Reena Mohammed (Vice Principal), Dr. K.P Sumedhan (Director of Self-financing Department) and Dr. Girija T.P. HoD Research Department of Botany. They encouraged the students to participate in such conservation programs.



Ms. Ekaterina, SER Asia Network Core Team Member shared the importance of MAD Week event 2022 and mentioned the importance of different stakeholder engagement in restoration in the various events and the ongoing restoration activities.

Next to that, we launched a recorded video of WGHF to promote the message of ecorestoration through spreading the necessity of “Local Gene pool in Local Nurseries for Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Resilience”. A different week different thought for a different year of ecorestoration. The message for local gene pools and nurseries ensure diversity up to the genetic level, involvement of local community and a sustainable livelihood in all ecorestoration programs.



COASTAL ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION GATHERING: 5TH JUNE 2022



The Centre for Ecology, Taxonomy, Conservation and Climate change (CEtC) of Western Ghats Hornbill Foundation (WGHF) at Research Department of Botany, MES Asmabi College Campus is hosting one of our program on coastal ecorestoration. It is a Model Project for Kerala Coast in partnership with Sree Narayana Puram Grama Panchayath.



SCHOOL CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN COASTAL RESTORATION AND MAD WEEK EVENT: 6TH JUNE 2023



The children from Veycode Government L.P. school were joined the ecorestoration site along with the women groups for planting seedlings in the coastal region of Kodungallur. The programme was inaugurated by E T. Tyson Master, MLA, Kaipamangalam.



COASTAL RESTORATION SEED BED & THREATENED SPECIES NURSERY: 8TH JUNE 2022



In connection with MAD week event, Bhoomithrasena Club of MES Asmabi College have gathered to develop seed bed for coastal restoration on 8th June 2022. The seeds collected from the local area especially the *Calophyllum inophyllum* were sowed in the seed bed for its germination with proper spacing and nutrient support.



COMMUNITY NURSERY



To spread the message of the local gene pool in local nurseries, the women in MGNREGA collected the seeds and seedlings from the local and developed a local nursery in each ward of restoration.

