

Kalpavriksh

Annual Report 2020-21



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Cover Photo: Spider Webs, Kolad, Maharashtra – Ashish Kothari (Dec 2019)

About Kalpavriksh

Beginnings

Kalpavriksh is a non-governmental organisation working in the area of environment education, research, campaigns, and direct action. It began in 1979, with a youth campaign to save Delhi's Ridge Forest area from encroachments and destruction. Starting with these roots in local action, Kalpavriksh has moved on to work on a number of local, national, and global issues. Kalpavriksh is registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1980(No. S-17439). While its offices are currently in Pune, its members are based across India and some other countries.

Philosophy

Kalpavriksh believes that a country can develop meaningfully only when ecological sustainability and social equity are guaranteed, and a sense of respect for and oneness with nature and fellow humans is achieved.

Governance

Kalpavriksh is a non-hierarchical organisation. One of the working principles that emanated from the philosophy of the group was a democratic decision-making process. All decisions are taken during group meetings and based on group consensus.

Functioning

Core functions include general administration, website administration, finance, accounts and publications. These activities are largely handled at the Pune office. Projects and activities are related to the following themes.

- A. Environment Education
- B. Conservation and Livelihoods
- C. Environment and Development
- D. Alternatives

Annual General Body Meeting

The Annual General Body Meeting was held virtually (owing to the Covid-19 pandemic) on 25th and 26th September 2020. Election of the governing body (core group) and the office bearers, and the appointment of the financial auditor were done at this meeting.

Governing Body (Core Group) Members

Secretary: Shrishtee Bajpai

Treasurer: Anuradha Arjunwadkar

Neema Pathak Broome, Meenal Tatpati, Ashish Kothari, Milind Wani, Pradeep Chavan, Sujatha Padmanabhan, Sharmila Deo, Kanchi Kohli, Tanya Majmudar, Akshay Chettri and Radhika Mulay

Note: Shrishtee Bajpai was replaced by Neema Pathak Broome as Secretary, on 11th January 2021 through a decision taken in an Extraordinary General Body Meeting.

Auditor

Paresh Sarda, Chartered Accountant, Pune

Committee for Prevention of Sexual Harassment

Kalpavriksh has an Internal Complaints Committee for its Pune office and Delhi in compliance with the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.

Pune Committee

Meenal Tatpati (Presiding Officer), Prajakta Kulkarni, Shruti Ajit, Milind Wani, Advocate Rama Sarode as an external expert

Delhi Committee

Meenakshi Kapoor (Presiding Officer), Anchal Sondhi, Seema Bhatt, Prabhakar Rao and Shalini Bhutani

The annual meeting of the Internal Complaint Committee could not be held this year, owing to the pandemic.

PART A: PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES/CAMPAIGNS

A. Environment Education

A.1 Children's Books

Coordinators	Sujatha Padmanabhan and Tanya Majmudar
Support Team	Jahnvi Sreedhar (till May 2020)
Year of Commencement	August 2019
Year of Completion	Ongoing
Total Funds Sanctioned	Rs. 21,00,000/ (for two years)
Funding Agency	Sir Dorabji Tata Trusts

A.1a New Releases

We reviewed over 50 submissions after putting out a public call for manuscripts. We published the following three books:

1. *The Miracle on Sunderbaag Street* by Nandita da Cunha; illustrated by Priya Kuriyan
2. *Traveling Seedstext* and illustrations by Lavanya Karthik
3. *Saahi's Quest* by Yuvan M. and illustrations by Anusha Menon.

On-line releases were held for *The Miracle on Sunderbaag Street* and *Traveling Seeds* in collaboration with Story Station and for *Saahi's Quest* in collaboration with Thicket Tales.

A.1b Upcoming Publications

We have accepted 3 more manuscripts for publication, for which illustration work is ongoing. Tejaswini Apte-Rahm, Yashodhara Kundaji, Meghan Sah, Rakshit Shah, Asad Rehmani, Sameer Dookia, Neeraj Vagholikar and Ritwick Dutta supported by giving comments to a few short-listed manuscripts. Students of Centre for Learning (Bengaluru) and DLRC (Pune) also gave comments to drafts of the stories. The three ongoing stories are:

1. *Ajiri, the Chinkara* (working title) by Sandeep Virmani; illustrated by Niloufer Wadia
2. *Chitty and her forest farm* (working title) by Serow; illustrated by Rajiv Eipe
3. *Pedru And The Big Bang* (working title) by Nandita da Cunha; illustrated by NiharikaShenoy

A.1c Marketing, Promotions and Distribution

1. Kalpavriksh tied up with Pagdandi Café and Book Store to be able to continue handling website book orders during the periods of the lockdown.
2. Kalpavriksh children's books are available in bookshops in many cities in India and can also be ordered online. They continue to be available on the reading apps GetLitt and Freadom.
3. *Saahi's Quest* was reviewed in The New Indian Express and *The Miracle of Sunderbaag Street* in The Sunday Middy; review of all books in Teacher Plus magazine.

The following book reading sessions took place (online unless otherwise mentioned):

1. *Critters Around Our Homes* reading session on May 25th by Sanjay Sondhi for Thicket Tales Weekend Wild talk.
2. *Shero to the Rescue* storytelling and animation film screening on May 31st by Ashish Kothari and Anusha Menon for Thicket Tales Weekend Wild talk.
3. *The Poop Book!* In-person session on July 30th by Tejaswini Apte-Rahm at The Alliance Francais in Suva, Fiji.
4. *Saahi's Quest* book release and storytelling session on Oct 3rd in by M. Yuvan in collaboration with Thicket Tales.
5. *The Miracle on Sunderbaag Street* book release and story telling session on Oct 4th by Nandita da Cunha in collaboration with Story Station's Katha Mehfil
6. *Shero To The Rescue* reading and animation film screening on Oct 6th by Ashish Kothari and Anusha Menon at Bombay International School.
7. *Travelling Seeds* book release and session on seeds on Oct 10th by Lavanya Karthik in collaboration with Story Station's Katha Mehfil.
8. *The Miracle on Sunderbaag Street* story telling session on Oct 24th by Nandita da Cunha at Kahani Tree Bookstore
9. *The Miracle on Sunderbaag Street* story telling session on Oct 27th by Nandita da Cunha at Akshara High School, Mumbai
10. *The Miracle on Sunderbaag Street* story telling session on Jan 19th by Nandita da Cunha at Bombay International School.
11. *Ghost of the Mountains* story telling on Feb 25th by Sujatha Padmanabhan for the Rajghat Beasant School Literary Festival
12. Funky Rainbow's Book Bazaar, guest appearance on March 6th by Sujatha Padmanabhan on occasion of World Wildlife Day.

A.1d Regional Language Translations

1. Tibetan: *Po Tricks His Foe* and *Khari Journeys through Kachchh* published by The Department of Education, Central Tibetan Administration.
2. Marathi: Feedback given to draft of *People & Wildlife* to Jyotsna Prakashan
3. Telugu: *Secrets of the Jungle* published by Manchi Pustakam

B. Conservation and Livelihoods

Coordinators	Neema Pathak Broome
Team	Milind Wani, Pankaj Sekhsariya, Pradeep Chavan, Meenal Tatpati, Tanya Majmudar, Shruti Ajit, Subhash Dolas, Akshay Chettri, Rudrath Avinashi
Year of Commencement	N/A
Year of Completion	Ongoing
Total Funds Sanctioned	Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies – INR 36,67,620 (project period was April 2019 - Mar 2020 but was extended to Nov 2020 owing to the Pandemic) Paul Hamlyn Foundation – INR 76,12,000 (over 2 years from Oct 2020) Additional funding for specific projects is mentioned with project heads below.
Funding Agency	Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies (April 2020 November 2020) Paul Hamlyn Foundation (October 2020 Onwards)

B.1 Community Conserved Areas

Coordinators	Neema Pathak Broome
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Team	Tanya Majmudar, Shruti Ajit, Rudrath Avinashi, Meenal Tatpati
Year of Commencement	N/A
Year of Completion	Ongoing
Total Funds Sanctioned	USD 6,000 – ICCA Consortium INR 2,00,000 – WWF-India INR 1,50,000 – United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) (from INR 25,81,500 received in the previous year) INR 50,6000 – Holdeen
Funding Agency	ICCA Consortium Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies (as part of C&L programme funding) Paul Hamlyn Foundation (as part of C&L programme funding) WWF-India United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) Holdeen

B.1a Outreach and Information Exchange on CCAs

Due to the onset of Covid, all of the activities were organized virtually. Kalpavriksh along with other members of the CCA Regional Coordination Committee of South Asia with the support of ICCA Consortium, Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies and Paul Hamlyn Foundation organised a webinar series on “Community Conserved Areas in South Asia”. The objective of the series is to highlight the community based and community-led conservation initiatives which challenges the dominant narrative of exclusionary conservation. The first webinar began on August 2020 and the last in the series ended in March 2021. The series had to be put on hold owing to the second wave of Covid and will resume depending on the situation on ground and availability of speakers.

The webinars were:

1. [Fishing Community in Loktak Lake by Salam Rajesh](#)
2. [Wetland Conservation in Vidarbha by Manish Rajankar and Shalu Kohle](#)
3. [Van Panchayats in Uttarakhand by Malika Viridi, Beena Nitwal and Rekha Rautela](#)
4. [Community Conserved Areas in Arunachal Pradesh by Jam Tsering, Pema Wange Lham, Kamal Medhi and Pijush K Dutta](#)
5. [Culture and Conservation in the Dibang Valley of Arunachal Pradesh by Achili Mihu, Jibi Pulu, Iho Mitapo and Sahil Nijhawan](#)
6. [Khumbu- Sherpa Territories of Life in the Mount Everest Region by Tenzing Tashi Sherpa](#)
7. [Non-violence and biocultural conservation in Tumba by Nima Lama and Narendra Lama](#)
8. [Orans- Sacred Spaces in Rajasthan by Aman Singh, Aditi Veena and Sumersingh Bhati](#)
9. [Grasslands in Central India by Kaustubh Pandharipande, Dhananjay Newadkar, Jayaji Paikrao and Kuldip Rathod](#)

B.1b Strengthening the CCA Network in the Region

1. A virtual Regional Coordination Committee meeting was organised on 20th October 2020 to update on the activities and status of thematic groups that had emerged from the South Asia Regionalisation meeting.
2. New members and honorary members were added to the Consortium from South Asia region during this period.
3. Kalpavriksh is helping coordinate participation of members from India and South Asia in ICCA Consortium's initiative for Asia grasslands group.
4. Kalpavriksh is one of the national coordinators for Youth for Biodiversity <https://www.gybn.org/>
5. Kalpavriksh is also participating in Women4Biodiversity <https://www.women4biodiversity.org/>

- Kalpavriksh is engaged in discussions happening related to Convention on Biological Diversity Post 20/20 Framework for Biodiversity <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2021/07/a-new-global-framework-for-managing-nature-through-2030-1st-detailed-draft-agreement-debuts/>
- Kalpavriksh has been invited to be in the working committee on North East India Bio-cultural Conservation Initiative which is an initiative supported by the GSI of UNDP and Government of India. https://www.in.undp.org/content/india/en/home/projects/North_East_Conservative_Measure_Initiative.html

B.1cCCA Web Portal

Kalpavriksh is working with Sewa Mandir, Strand Life Sciences and Metastring Foundation on building a web portal to host maps and documentation on CCAs in South Asia. In this period, the fields for data collection were discussed and decided. A questionnaire for on-ground data collection was developed. A shorter version of the questionnaire was developed and field tested in Rajasthan in collaboration with Seva Mandir.

B.1dOn-Ground Support to CCAs

- Kalpavriksh extended support to the community in Korchi, Maharashtra for their self-strengthening process.
- Kalpavriksh continues to support the self-strengthening process and conservation of the Van Panchayats in Uttarakhand.
- Kalpavriksh continues to support Foundation for Economic and Ecological Development (FEED), for community-based documentation of grassland, wetland and forest based CCAs in Vidharba region of Maharashtra.
- Kalpavriksh supported the CCAs defending their territories, particularly the Orans in Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan

B.2 Protected Area Governance

Team	Neema Pathak Broome, Meenal Tatpati, Shruti Ajit, Akshay Chettri
Year of Commencement	April 2019
Year of Completion	Ongoing
Total Funds Sanctioned	
Funding Agency	Rohini Nilekani Philanthropy (as part of larger C&L Programme) Paul Hamlyn Foundation (as part of larger C&L Programme)

This project is in continuance with the work Kalpavriksh's Conservation and Livelihood programme has been focused on, aimed at challenging the current dominant model of exclusionary conservation and building narratives towards a democratic and inclusive form of conservation. The

B.2aEngagement with Laws and Policies on Protected Areas

An important part under the theme of Conservation and Livelihoods has been centred on Protected Areas and the issues faced by communities living in and around such areas through documentation and advocacy.

- Updating a database on Protected Areas to understand and analyze the expansion of protected areas, displacement processes and implementation of Forest Rights Act in PAs looking at policies, management and on-ground implementation and impacts.
- Regular tracking of parks and peoples issues in India focusing on documentation, advocacy and campaigns along with other organizations, researchers etc.
- Working on a model of coexistence in Protected Areas as an alternative to the exclusionary conservation model along with Khoj, ATREE. Kalpavriksh held a webinar in February to discuss the need for coexistence and the work of three researchers on the coexistence model.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5548S3UnvIY&t=248s&ab_channel=KalpavrikshEnvironmentActionGroup

4. The team has also, in collaboration with organizations, researchers and activists written letters and petitions against the various notices which have prohibited communities from entering protected areas during the pandemic.
5. Intervention related to identification and declaration of Critical Wildlife Habitat: Along with Khoj in Maharashtra and ATREE, Bangalore, we are engaged in tracking the developments related to identification and declaration of Critical Wildlife Habitats in Maharashtra, including attending meetings organized by the Tribal Department and Forest Departments of Maharashtra, submitting letters and collating and analysing documents and ongoing court cases on the process of CWH in Maharashtra. The team also organized a webinar with the members of the Expert Committee for identification of CWH in Maharashtra. The team also released a report titled '**Critical Wildlife Habitat: What is it, how should it be implemented, and how is it being pushed through?**' in English and Hindi.

<https://kalpavriksh.org/publication/critical-wildlife-habitat-what-is-it-how-should-it-be-implemented-and-how-is-it-being-pushed-through/>

B.2b Mapping of Conflicts in Protected Areas

The team released a [conflict map](#) in collaboration with the Environmental Justice Atlas team on 8th October 2020, an interactive map highlighting grassroots issues of forest and wildlife conservation policies focusing on management of PAs, displacement, criminalization and resistance by communities against the various injustices.

As part of the map release, A three part video series collaboration between Kalpavriksh and [the Bastion](#), an independent digital media house, touches on the effects of the protected area model on local communities, the interface between conservation and development in such protected areas and the shift towards a more democratic system through laws like the forest rights act and what have been the barriers in its implementation on ground.

Speakers: Neema Pathak Broome, Akshay Chettri, Eleonora Fanari

Recordings:

Part 1: [Where Do Communities Go When Areas are 'Protected'?](#)

Part 2: [Is the FRA Protecting Displaced Communities in Protected Areas?](#)

Part 3: [Why Are Protected Areas Still The Model Form of Conservation?](#)

B.2c Legal Interventions and On-ground Investigations

1. While there has been no field work in the past year due to the pandemic, the team has continued its work in the Uttarakhand Landscape level study. The team is currently working on a draft report with focus on previous field works. The details of the report will be shared with the on ground team and the community members.
2. A report on the effects of notification of Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary into a National Park is being compiled.

B.3 Continued Research and Advocacy on the Forest Rights Act

Coordinator	Neema Pathak Broome
Team	MeenalTatpati, Shruti Ajit, Kankana Trivedi, Akshay Chettri
Year of Commencement	April 2018
Year of Completion	March 2020
Total Funds Sanctioned	INR 84,000

Funding Agency	Vasundhara-Oxfam
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As part of the Community Forest Rights-Learning and Advocacy Network, Kalpavriish compiled the citizens report documenting the country wise implementation of the Forest Rights Act 2006, particularly the provision of the Community Forest Resource Rights and polices affecting the FRA for the year 2017-

2020. https://www.fra.org.in/document/Community%20Forest%20Rights%20at%20a%20Glance_2017-2020.pdf

The team also drafted and sent a petition against the Advisory regarding the containing and management of Covid 19 in National Parks/Sanctuaries and Wildlife Reserves.

In collaboration with VikalpSangam , CFRLA produced Vol 2 on Extraordinary work of ordinary people – Community Forest Rights- The Gramsabhas lead the way in the Pandemic. <https://kalpavriksh.org/publication/hindi-extraordinary-work-of-ordinary-people-part-2-community-forest-rights-the-pandemic-gram-sabhas-lead-the-way/>

B.4 Bhimashankar Conservation and Livelihoods Programme

Coordinators	Pradeep Chavan
Team	Neema Pathak Broome, Subhash Dolas, Manda Kathe, Parvata Wanghare, Daulat Bhagit, Milind Wani, Sushma Gaikwad, Anuradha Arjunwadkar,
Others involved	Nidhi Agarwal (External consultant for translations) Surhud Gokhale (Research Intern)
Year of Commencement	N/A
Year of Completion	Ongoing
Total Funds Sanctioned	Misereor – EUR 8,000 (December 2017 – February 2021) Duleep Mathai Fellowship – INR 5,00,000 (June 2019 – August 2021)
Funding Agency	Misereor Duleep Mathai Fellowship Rohini Nilekani Philanthropy (as part of larger C&L Programme) Paul Hamlyn Foundation (as part of larger C&L Programme)

B.4a Governance and Access Rights

1. Successfully filed 7 CFR claims of Yelavali, Garbewadi, Bhivegaon, Bhomale (upper), Bhomale (Lower), Kharpud and Pabhe villages in Rajgurunagar Taluka of Pune District. Out of which 2 villages, namely Kharpud and Bhomale (upper), got their CFR titles in October 2020.
2. Helping Kisan Sabha in FRA implementation in Ambegaon and Shirur Talukas of Pune district as and when required
3. Produced a short film on “Emergence of Women in Local and Forest Governance” <https://youtu.be/nvoq-2K1YAA>
4. Drafted a simple note in vernacular language on the Critical Wildlife Habitats process (as per FRA) to create awareness among the local villagers in Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary, regarding illegalities and hasty processes started by Forest department in Maharashtra.
5. Drafted and distributed a simple note on “Bhimashankar Ecological Sensitive Zone” notification.
6. We are Facilitating Yelavali Eco-village Development (EVD) meetings for democratic decision making for forest and village development and also to maintain transparencies in utilizing the funds they received.

B.4b Women Empowerment

1. Facilitated the process of women empowerment by organizing SHG workshops at Bhomale (U) and Bhomale (Lower) villages on different subjects like local seed conservation, Natural farming, process of establishing women federation, formation of Women Farmer Producer Company (FPC), and implementation of National Rural Employment Guarantee Act etc.
2. We succeeded in establishing a Women Federation of SHGs of 6 villages and planning to start a “Van Dhan Kendra” under the Government of India scheme. We are also hoping to establish a women farmer producer company of this federation to address the Employment generation issue using locally available forest and farm products.

B.4c Honey Bee Conservation

1. Facilitated the meetings and discussions with Honey harvesters on the conservation of bees and their habitats. Had some meetings with Honey harvesters regarding the better honey harvesting practices.
2. Revival and conservation of Honey bees’ habitats. Repaired and revived more than 40 destroyed habitats of *Apis cerana* honey bees. Out of which only 9 are acquired by the bees. According to the honey harvester this year Bhimashankar area witnessed very less and poor flowering which results in less honey bees and less honey yield.
3. Working on methodology for honey bee population study.
4. Facilitating the Honey enterprise by Jai Sadguru Women Self Help Group.

B.4d On-ground Support (Wild Foods, Natural Farming, Agricultural Diversity)

1. With the help of Sahyadri School, we help and distributed some local varieties of Rice and vegetables to the women farmers of Bhorgiri, Bhomale and Bhivegaon.
2. We developed 4 notes in simple Marathi language on 1) Subhash Palekar’s Natural Farming (SPNF/ ZBNF) 2) Note on making Beejamrut, Jeevamrut, Ghan jeevamrut 3) Note on Rice farming using SPNF 4) Note on Pest control using SPNF techniques.
3. Published a booklet on Uncultivated wild vegetables of Bhimashankar in vernacular language. It has documented more than 60 wild vegetables, their medicinal properties and recipes. Distributed these books in all 6 villages for the awareness purpose.
4. Drafted a booklet on “local agricultural diversity of Bhimashankar”. This booklet is almost ready and will be published in May 2021.

B.4e Livelihoods

1. Facilitating the process of implementation of National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA in the villages). Spreading awareness amongst the villagers regarding NREGA.
2. Follow up with BDO, Tahsildar and Assistant Project officer of NREGA to start the work in the villages.
3. Conducted a two-day training programme for the Bhimashankar team members in Pune.
4. Organized a NREGA workshop jointly with the SHGs of Bhomale (Lower) for the women federation members.

B.5 Protected Area Update Newsletters

Coordinators	Pankaj Sekhsaria
Team	
Others involved	Reshma Jathar
Year of Commencement	1994

Year of Completion	Ongoing
Total Funds Sanctioned	INR 4,00,000 – Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Trust (DMNCT) INR 1,00,000 – donations and subscriptions
Funding Agency	INR 4,00,000 – Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Trust (DMNCT) INR 1,00,000 – donations and subscriptions

B.5a PA Update

1. Production and Printing of *PA Update* Vol XXVI No. 3, June 2020 (No. 145)
2. Production and Printing of *PA Update* Vol XXVI No. 4, August 2020 (No. 146)
3. Production and Printing of *PA Update* Vol XXVI No. 5, October 2020 (No. 147)
4. Production and Printing of *PA Update* Vol XXVI No. 6, December 2020 (No. 148)
5. Production and Printing of *PA Update* Vol XXVII No. 1, February 2021 (No. 149)
6. Production and Printing of *PA Update* Vol XXVII No. 2, April 2021 (No. 150)

B.5b Maharashtra Protected Area Newsletter (Marathi)

Maharashtra Sanrakshit Kshetra Vartapatra (In Marathi)

This is a new newsletter being produced with the support from the DMNCT.

To be published in Marathi it will carry news and information on protected areas mainly on Maharashtra and drawn from what has appeared in the Marathi media. It will be published four times a year. The first issue was published in March-April 2020. The newsletter will be edited by Reshma Jathar with Pankaj Sekhsaria being the Associate Editor.

Production and Printing of the following happened in this duration:

1. *Maharashtra Sanrakshit Kshetra Vartapatra*, Vol. 1, No. 2, July 2020 (No. 2)
2. *Maharashtra Sanrakshit Kshetra Vartapatra*, Vol. 1, No. 3, October 2020 (No. 3)
3. *Maharashtra Sanrakshit Kshetra Vartapatra*, Vol. 2, No. 1, January 2021 (No. 4)

C. Environment and Development

Coordinator	Neeraj Vagholikar
Year of Commencement	2001
Year of Completion	Ongoing
Total Funds Sanctioned	INR 1,00,000
Funding Agency	Individual Donations

Kalpavriksh has been engaging with environmental governance aspects of large hydropower projects coming up on rivers in the ecologically and culturally sensitive Northeast of India since 2001. In the current year the focus was on providing technical support to local communities and groups to engage with the environmental governance processes for projects coming up on rivers in their area, in order to address their social and environment impact concerns.

D. Alternative Practices and Visions in India: Documentation, Networking, and Advocacy

The Alternatives programme continued its work on documenting, making known, networking and doing advocacy regarding alternative initiatives and visions across India, and linking these to global initiatives. This update is in two sections: activities and networks within India, and global activities / networking.

SECTION 1: ACTIVITIES IN/RELATING TO INDIA

D.1 Alternatives Confluences of Youth for Ecological Sustainability

Project: Alternatives Confluences of Youth for Ecological Sustainability
Coordinator: Sujatha Padmanabhan
Support Team: Ashish Kothari, Shruti Ajit, Hannah Marsden (Intern)
Year of Commencement: Dec 2018
Year of Completion: March 2021 (including the extension period)
Funds Sanctioned: Rs. 14,50,000 (for 2 years)
Funding Agency: Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Trust

This programme focused on taking the Vikalp Sangam processes to **Youth** and to also highlight youth-led initiatives as well as youth priorities. The project, which includes a Sangam (confluence) as also documentation and outreach, focused on youth involved in ecological work, but seen as also in its inter-relation with the other spheres of transformation (economic democracy, social equity, justice and inclusion, cultural diversity, direct democracy)

Developments of Year 2:

D.1a Youth Vikalp Sangam

The Youth Vikalp Sangam was held online with sessions on five days spread over the period from Nov 27th to Dec 5th 2020. It was co-organised by Blue Ribbon Movement, Traveller's University, Commutiny, Bhoomi, VartaLeap, Vayali and Kalpavriksh. 27 participants from different parts of the country, representing diverse areas of work within the broad umbrella of ecology, attended. Sessions were held on Visioning Alternatives, Sustainable Livelihoods and Resilience, Sustaining Movements and Building Synergies.

A detailed documentation of the Vikalp Sangam was done and can be read at:

<https://vikalpsangam.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/YVS-2020-Documentation.pdf>

D.1b Special Workshop

A three-day workshop, "Pluriverse – An immersion into plural worlds of justice" was co-organized by a few organizations that are part of Vikalp Sangam's Core Group at Swaraj University in Udaipur, Rajasthan from March 19th to 21st, 2021. 28 participants from 11 different states attended presentations by different resource people and participated in discussions on topics like diverse Worldviews; Democratic Autonomy in Kurdistan, ecology and women's liberation; Alternative Economy and the Commons; Alternative Education; and Degrowth. The sessions were planned around the books 'Pluriverse: A Post-development Dictionary' and 'Alternative Futures: India Unshackled'.

D.1c Stories

Three stories were commissioned:

1. Story on the efforts of Farm2food to build local resilience through farm and nutrition projects in schools:<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/farm-and-food-entrepreneurship-rebuilding-assams-fragile-economy-and-ecology/>
2. Story about the Sustainable Menstruation Kerala Collective:<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/making-informed-choices-bleeding-clean/>
3. Story on Green Hub, a platform that offers youth an opportunity to learn to create programs for radio and films:<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/telling-stories-creating-change/>

D.1d Films

Two video films were commissioned:

1. Documentation on work sharing at the 2019 Youth Vikalp Sangam:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jsWFQIurhFM&t=8s>
2. Film on school students' artstorm in support of Save Vedanthangal Campaign:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nN5i4EhoGiA&t=6s>

D.1e Youth Volume of Extraordinary Work of 'Ordinary' People

Youth volume of stories of resilience and hope was published. 9 stories of youth-led initiatives that show hope, caring, support, and resilience in the times of the pandemic in 2020. English digital-version uploaded.

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/youth-stories-of-hope-resilience-collective-dreaming/>

Malayalam translation of the same:

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/youth-stories-of-hope-resilience-collective-dreaming-in-malayalam/>

Hindi translation of the same:

<https://vikalpsangam.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/EWOP-Vol-5-Youth-Hindi.pdf>

D.1f Transcriptions of VikalpVartas

Five VikalpVartas which involved youth initiatives on ecology, were transcribed.

D.2 Documentation and Outreach Centre for Community Based Biodiversity Conservation and Livelihood Security

Coordinator: Milind Wani

Support Team: Pradeep Chavan, Subhash Dolas, VikalSamdariya, Anuradha Arjunwadkar

Advisory Team: Neema Pathak, Pankaj Sekhsaria, Seema Bhatt

Others involved: Shiba Desor, MeenalTatpati, Govind Khalsode

Associates (External): Kumar Shiralkar (Rashtriya Adivasi AdhikarManch)

Year of commencement: September 2011

Year of completion: Ongoing

Total funds sanctioned: 135,000 Euros

Fund Usage (April 2020 – March 2021): INR 12,61,017 (15,922 Euros)

Funding agency: Misereor

D.2a Stories

For Vikalp Sangam website threestories on Alternatives were commissioned and two of them uploaded.

1. **Solar Energy illuminates and Adivasi Village** by Baba Mayaram (<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/baba-tribal-women-solar-engineers-hindi/>)
2. **Henvalwani is the voice of the state of Uttarakhand** by Baba Mayaram (<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/baba-m-henvalvaani-of-uttarakhand-in-hindi/>)
3. **The duo who revolutionised the folk culture of Rajasthan** by Kankana Trivedi (still being edited)

D.2b Case Studies

Two case-studies on Alternatives were commissioned for the Vikalp Sangam website, and uploaded.

1. **Small-Scale Decentralized Processing of Small Millets** by M. Karthikeyan (<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/small-scale-decentralised-processing-of-small-millet/>)
2. **Emergence of Small-Scale Cold-Pressed Oil Units in Tamil Nadu, a Welcome Change for the Local Food Systems** by M. Karthikeyan (<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/case-study-kartikeyan-on-cold-pressed-oil/>)

D.2c Book on Wellbeing and Justice

Twelve essays have been received. Three more are due. Editorial and design work is underway.

D.2d Other Activities

1. Designing and printing of 'Pandemic Resilience in the Western Himalayas' (Volume 3 of 'Extraordinary Work of 'Ordinary' People: Beyond Pandemics and Lockdowns'; see below for a separate section on these reports)
2. Designing and translation of 'Women Farmers Lead Community Resilience' (Volume 4 of 'Extraordinary Work of 'Ordinary' People: Beyond Pandemics and Lockdowns')
3. Preparation of 'Youth Lead Community Resilience' (Volume 5 of 'Extraordinary Work of 'Ordinary' People: Beyond Pandemics and Lockdowns')
4. Initiate Vikalp Sutra from mid-2020, from a felt need to go beyond the relief work necessary in the pandemic-induced lockdown (see below for separate description of this).
5. Putting out stories, news, event-related content relating to alternatives, on various 'social' media including Instagram, Facebook and Twitter.
6. Designing and printing a graphic novel on alternatives, to enhance outreach to audiences that may not necessarily read text-heavy material, and to make the material more attractive, especially to youth.

D.3 Alternative Practices and Visions in India: Documentation, Networking, and Advocacy

<p>Project Coordinator: Ashish Kothari Project Team: Shrishtee Bajpai and Anuradha Arjunwadkar Year of commencement: January 2020 Year of completion: December 2020 Funds sanctioned: Rs. 33,23,150 + 11,95,893 (for the year 2021) Funding agency: Heinrich Böll Stiftung, Regional Office, New Delhi</p>

This is the 7th year of funding from HBF for KV's work on documenting, networking, and building on alternative initiatives around India.

Project Activities:

D.3a Stories by Media Fellow

1. Baba Mayaram, our media fellow, did stories by following up with the communities he had visited for 7 years on the phone and conducting remote interviews
 - तालाबंदीमेंजंगलसेआतीहैभोजनकीथाली :<https://bit.ly/2UBSIbK>
 - परंपरागतबीजोंसेमहामारीकामुकाबल:<https://bit.ly/3k8zJ3o>
 - देसीबीजोंकीखेतीनेभूखसेबचाया: <https://bit.ly/3r3Bn7u>
 - संथालबच्चोंकास्कूल:<https://bit.ly/36tw6gh> ;
 - झारखंडमेंएकजुटसंस्थामानसिकस्वास्थ्यपरकामकररहीहै: <https://bit.ly/3ARZNFJ>
 - आदिवासियोंकीसब्जीबाड़ी:<https://bit.ly/3xCDKRp>
 - विश्रामदेनेसेजीउठाजंगल:<https://bit.ly/3APReeA>

D.3b Video documentation of stories on alternative initiatives

Srishti School of Art and Design was commissioned to make a series of short graphic videos on several initiatives to convey a coherent narrative of how alternative transformations emerge. The idea is to popularise this content in social media and reach a wider audience.

- Tribal Heath Initiative, Sittilingi, Tamil Nadu: <https://bit.ly/3e4UJny>
- Kunariya Paving the way for India's Future, Kutch, Gujarat: <https://bit.ly/3xxRr40>
- Chaidye, LPPS, Rajasthan: <https://bit.ly/3e8LSBn>
- Taalavatam, Vayali, Kerala: <https://bit.ly/36lAKax>
- HaanthUtheyNirman Mein, Samaj Pragati Sahyog, Madhya Pradesh: <https://bit.ly/36rRAKz>
- MulaKumtsa: <https://bit.ly/3k5Rv7e>
- Navdarshnam- Farm to Life, Tamil Nadu: <https://bit.ly/3r4zbg4>
- Learning to Conserve and conserving to learn, Marudam, Tamil Nadu- <https://bit.ly/2VqIBXz>
- Hunnarshala, Kutch, Gujarat: <https://bit.ly/3wvkjZn>
- Hum Hain AtmaNirbhar, Charkha, Bengaluru: <https://bit.ly/3k8BfCC>
- AVANI, Uttarakhand: <https://bit.ly/3hR1KJK>
- Rivers for Life, Arunachal Pradesh <https://bit.ly/3wxYbh4>

A film on theVikalp Sangam process was also especially made this year: <https://youtu.be/PrhdUOV0-Ro>

D.3c VS Coronatimes Blog

[The VS Coronatimesblog](#) is an extension of the main website of [Vikalp Sangam](#) to collate and archive the COVID19 relief efforts and related initiatives by civil society organisations and individuals across India. Initiatives and efforts are being put up on the blog based on trust and mutual respect to help each other in time of need. The blog was active for the full period of the 1st wave of the pandemic, then discontinued.

D.3d Extraordinary work of ordinary people

This series of documents (separately described below) was partly funded through this project.

D.3e Vikalpvaritas: Dialogue on Alternatives in the Times of Crises

Partly supported through this project, but mostly carried out on a voluntary basis, this series of online dialogues is reported on separately below.

D.3f Vikalp Sutra

This new initiative emanating from Vikalp Sangam was partly supported by this project, and is reported on separately below.

D.3g Vikalp Sangam Social Media

A Vikalp Sangam Communications Team was set up in 2020, to do systematic outreach of materials and processes generated by VS and its constituent members, as also express solidarity or help do outreach of other networks. Posts are being put up several times a week, with special focus on national or international days celebrating or commemorating particular themes and events.

Vikalp Sangam is now actively present on social media and trying to reach out to a much wider audience. Here are the links:

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/vikalpsangam/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/VikalpSangam>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/VikalpSangam>

VS Comms team: Rucha Chitnis, Reema Shah, Vasudha Varadarajan (and for an initial period, also Vipul Sangoi)

D.3h Vikalp Sangam Core Group Meetings

The VS Core Group continued to expand, with a membership of nearly 70 organisations and networks as of early 2021.

A midterm CG online meeting was organised to update and plan for the upcoming months. The main objectives of this meeting were/ covered -

- Updates from the groups especially related to COVID/getting a feel of how everyone is doing in these bizarre times
- Updates on VS activities since the last CG meeting
- Reflections on the VS process (it has been 6 years since it started): is it achieving its aims? what can be done better/differently?
- Plans for the next few months or year (including possibilities of physical meeting in late 2020)

A number of activities and ideas were proposed by the CG members.

The annual meeting (also online) was organised on 12-13th December, and attended by several CG members. The primary objectives of the meeting were:

- Updates on VS activities since the last CG meeting
- VS updates and proposals

- COVID responses: blog, VikalpVarta, community resilience documents, Vikalp Sutra, bioregions, rights of rivers collective etc

D.3i Alternatives Website Management and Hosting

- There are now about 1600+ stories and perspective pieces and case studies on the website. Resources and Events are also posted to it. A coordinated effort is being made to bring about the following.
- Vikalp-sangam-list@googlegroups.com - the e-group consisting of 700+ members discusses various aspects of alternative initiatives
- A Newsletter showing selected recent story titles and images hyperlinked to the stories is sent out each month to members of the e-group as well as to those who subscribe solely to the newsletter. (The option to subscribe to the newsletter appears at the foot of the home page above the logos of the co-hosts of Vikalp Sangam.)
- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/VikalpSangam/>), Instagram, and Twitter has links to stories and perspectives and case studies newly uploaded on the Vikalp Sangam website. The newsletter also appears on this wall.

(see also below, Websites)

D.4 Vikalp Sutra

In June 2020, as a response to the livelihoods crises looming as a result of Covid19 induced lockdown, several constituents of the Vikalp Sangam process and other groups came together to initiate the Vikalp Sutra (<https://sutra.vikalpsangam.org>).

Vikalp Sutra is a collective, non-hierarchical platform aimed at facilitating dignified livelihoods, workers' rights and economic democracy in India. It is a response to the severe economic crisis faced by vulnerable communities and individual citizens in the country, due to the Covid19 pandemic. The vision of Vikalp Sutra is to promote community self-reliance, based on the principles of dignity, justice, equity, peace and ecological sustainability. Comprising of civil society, community institutions, local governance bodies, and other support groups and networks, this platform will facilitate vulnerable and resource poor communities to exercise their agency in claiming these inalienable rights and values.

Vikalp Sutra was facilitated through virtual discussions held in June and July 2020 with representatives of several national and regional networks and organisations including, CoAST, RCRC, FES, RRA Network, Goonj, WAASAN, COMMUTINY, NTLN, Welthungerhilfe, Just Change, ASHA, PAEG, Kalpavriksh, etc. (this is evolving with addition of more networks and organisations).

The initial brainstorming and discussions led to the writing of a concept note, which formed the basis of a Vikalp Sutra brochure that has been shared in the public domain (<http://vikalpsangam.org/article/invitation-to-join-vikalp-sutra>). A working framework of the proposed Sutra structure, strategies and activities was developed to guide the anchor group in taking the process ahead. A five member anchor group was then created to operationalise the vision into reality. A working group of 16 organisational/ network members was also formed organically. Volunteers from academia and alternative action groups/ non-profit organisations, etc. are also being mobilised to support the Sutra activities as they evolve.

The following processes and actions have been initiated:

D.4a Mapping framework

As a first step of action, a mapping exercise <https://bit.ly/3ogV9tM> has been initiated by Vikalp Sutra, to meet the following objectives:

1. To map the nature and work of people and organisations joining Vikalp Sutra

2. To compile interest and engagement in Vikalp Sutra focus groups (Dignified Livelihoods, Migrant and Workers Rights and Economy of Well-being)
3. To gather information on expectations/ possible contributions/ collaborations within and outside Vikalp Sutra

The responses to the mapping exercise are being collated to feed into a repository of work/ organisations on dignified livelihoods (mentioned later in this report).

D.4b Networking responses

Vikalp Sutra made some important links in response to Charkha's appeal for support to tide over the threat of closure and financial crisis caused due to the Covid19 lockdown, and adversely affected the livelihoods of weavers on the ground. The connections made enabled Charkha and Desi (its marketing partner) to find a collaboration with Buffalo Collective which strategized to sell off the existing stock through an innovative 'Desi Mystery Bag' campaign.

Some other networking connections have also been made/ initiated between and across working group members around dignified livelihood interventions and needs in different sectors such as crafts, organic food produce, education, etc.

A response was initiated to Aajeevika's appeal for support with workers associated with the PatharGadhai Mazdoor Suraksha Sangathan in Sirohi district of Rajasthan.

D.4c Action initiatives

1. **AjeeWiki (Sutra Repository):** A resource bank of different organisations, networks, practitioners, individuals working on dignified livelihoods across India. The data for this is being gathered through the Mapping exercise initiated by Vikalp Sutra and over time, is expected to become an easy-to-access-and-use digital platform on dignified and sustainable livelihoods.
2. **Sutra Vani:** One of the outcomes of the networking initiated around dignified livelihoods has been a dialogue for action with Gram Vaani (which provided migrant workers a helpline support during the Covid19 pandemic induced migration, job and livelihood losses). Conceptualised as 'Vikalp Vani', this will be a pilot helpline for Sutra linked organisations/ networks and individuals to access opportunities and services for enabling dignified livelihoods at the community level. The longer term vision is for this to be a helpline for workers (daily wage, migrants, etc.) searching for dignified livelihood opportunities in their home state or otherwise, to be facilitated by Sutra members. A pilot was successfully carried out in Bhuj town, Kachchh.
3. **Sutra Mandali:** An online outreach platform to stage/ share ideas/ stories of actions/ experiences on dignified and sustainable livelihoods in India and voice out for support/ collaborations.

D.5 VikalpVarta

In view of the COVID19 pandemic induced lockdown and subsequent difficulties in meeting physically, as also the need to give a voice to communities responding to the health and economic crises, a series of online presentations and discussions titled 'VikalpVarta' was initiated through the Vikalp Sangam process in April 2020.

21 Vartas were organised in 2020; and some planning began for a second series in 2021. Recordings of all the Vartas are available at: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLVGJfYVd8JMXoo4JE-0JNBoQk2fzxL9vK>

The Individual Vartas:

VikalpVarta #1, 18 April 2020: Gurgaon Farmers' Market

Speaker: Manas Arvind (Gurgaon Organic Farmers Market, UP)

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/04/vikalp-varta-1-farmers-markets.html>

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wlxJjBO5QOc>

VikalpVartā #2, 25 April 2020: Self-reliant village economy: Dalit women farmers' journey to food sovereignty

Speakers: Satheesh, Chandamma, Narsamma, Mayuree, Narsamma (Deccan Development Society, Telengana)

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/04/vikalp-varta-2-self-reliant-village.html>

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XFpzYiBSv7o>

VikalpVartā #3, 1 May 2020: Youth weave a new story in Kachchh

Speakers: GhatitLakheru, RajibenVankar, Vinod Vankar, Arun Vankar, ChampaSiju, Suresh Parbat, Ashok Vankar, Suresh Vankar (Khamir, and weavers of Kachchh)

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/04/vikalp-varta-2-youth-weave-new-story-in.html>

Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_CSwgzaja7s

VikalpVartā #4, 9 May 2020: Innovation and Transformation through Local Panchayats (Kuthambakkam, Tamil Nadu)

Speaker: ElangoRangasamy, ex-sarpanch, Kuthambakkam

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/05/vikalp-varta-4-innovation-and.html>

Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wzox_z20gQ8

VikalpVartā #5, 16 May 2020: Reviving Barter & Traditional Occupations to Revitalise Rural Economies

Speakers: Meenakshi Gupta, Anshu Gupta (Goonj)

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/05/vikalp-varta-5-reviving-barter.html>

Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_qwaQP9gKNU

VikalpVartā #6, 23 May 2020: Panchayat's Response through Self-Governance and Inter-generational Learning

Speakers: Suresh Chhanga (Sarpanch, Kunariya Village, Kachchh) along with members of Village Covid-response team

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/05/vikalp-varta-6-panchayats-response.html>

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tb9HC37FAAtA>

VikalpVartā #7, 30 May 2020: Our Health, Our Wealth: Adivasis show the way to self-reliance

Speakers: Shubhada Deshmukh, Satish Gogulwar (AmhiAmchayaArogyasathi)

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/05/vikalp-varta-7-our-health-our-wealth.html>

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zpZKWC2mY2A>

VikalpVartā #8, 6 June 2020: This is our city too! Community mobilisation in Bhuj, Kachchh

Speakers: Aseem Mishra, Manisha Jadeja, Aditya Singh, JignaGor, Nagulal Chandra, MamadLakha, Shabanaben Pathan, Karman Marwada, ArunbhaiVachharajani, Aamadhbhai Sama, and Nita Khubchandani [Members of JastrotSnehSamvardhan Samiti (Water Sources Augmentation Committee), NirmanSathiSangathan (Migrants' Association), Bhuj SaherSheriPheriaSangathan (Bhuj City Street Vendors' Association), Bhuj SaherPashuUcherakMaldhariSangathan (Bhuj City Cattle Rearers' Association), Hunnarshala, ACT, Sahjeevan, Kutch Mahila Vikas Sangathan, and SETU Abhiyan]

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/06/vikalp-varta-8-this-is-our-city-too.html>

Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oiIIEICx_IE

VikalpVartā #9, 20 June 2020: Learning to Connect Back with Nature, Land and People

Speakers: Arun, Poornima, Akila, Paripoornam, Karthik, Harish, and Pachaiyappan (Marudam Farm School)

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/06/vikalp-varta-9-learning-to-connect-back.html>

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kUMOd9IFPNw>

VikalpVartā #10, 27 June 2020: Inner Work for Social Change

Speakers: Anisha, Vibhuti, and Shashank (Youth Alliance)

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/06/vikalp-varta-10-inner-work-for-social.html>

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=trYAs-VZnKU&t=180s>

VikalpVartā #11, 11 July 2020: Resilience of Collaborative Markets

Speakers: Stan Thekaekare and Anil Misquith (ACCORD and Just Change)

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/07/vikalp-varta-11-resilience-of.html>

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kNEeKf4xIVM>

VikalpVartā #12, 25 July 2020: Learning, Healing, Creating and Communing in Jail

Speakers: Diken (Swaraj Jail University)

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/07/vikalp-varta-12-learning-healing.html>

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mNdmZhabUBM>

VikalpVartā #13, 8 August 2020: Sustainable Livelihoods: Women Lead the Way!

Speakers: Akole and Seno (North East Network)

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/08/vikalp-varta-13-north-east-network.html>

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NXh4XYbi5gc>

VikalpVartā #14, 22 August 2020: City Goes Local with its Food System!

Speakers: Gijs Spoor and Anjali Schiavina (Pondicherry Food System)

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/08/vikalp-varta-14-city-goes-local-with.html>

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gJknCLqmJ3A>

VikalpVartā #15, 5 September 2020: Participatory Guarantee System: Towards Organic Certification, Democratically!

Speakers: Kartik Gunasekar (Participatory Guarantee System Organic Council)

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/09/vikalp-varta-15-participatory-guarantee.html>

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ADC1MViNTRc>

VikalpVartā #16, 19 September 2020: Collective Ownership and Governance of Jal, Jangal and Zameen

Speakers: Malika Viridi (MAATI Sanghathan) and other women from the community

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/09/vikalp-varta-16-collective-ownership.html>

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0GDB4Ah662w&t=1713s>

VikalpVartā #17, 3 October 2020: Is Art Irrelevant?

Speakers: T.M.Krishna (Sumanasa Foundation)

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/09/vikalp-varta-17-is-art-irrelevant.html>

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0R8-l8eIRJo>

VikalpVartā #18, 17 October 2020: Weaving together health care, food, farming, craft, education and self-governance

Speakers: Lalitha, Madeshwari, and Regi (Tribal Health Initiative)

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/10/vikalp-varta-17-weaving-together-health.html>

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lAtLNbgAsJc>

VikalpVartā #19, 31 October 2020: Young Women Discover their Surroundings through Collective Action

Speakers: Pooja, Hema, Swarnima, Lalitha, and Keshwati (Chinhari)

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/10/vikalp-varta-19-young-women-discover.html>

Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qj1P2Gd4m_U&t=16s

VikalpVartā #20, 21 November 2020: Urban Agriculture

Speakers: Aditi Deodhar, Priya Bhide, and Rajendra Ravi

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/11/vikalp-varta-20-urban-agriculture.html>

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7F0tpKZFKjA&t=37s>

VikalpVartā #21, 5 December 2020: Bringing Learning Back into the Hands of Local Communities

Speakers: Christoph, Alison, Rachana, and Abhijit (Project DEFY)

Synopsis: <https://vscoronatimes.blogspot.com/2020/11/vikalp-varta-21-bringing-learning-back.html>

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vvHiftDkSGU&t=3s>

D.6 Extraordinary Work of 'Ordinary' People: A Series

With the onset of COVID19 in early 2020, Kalpavriksh and other members of the Vikalp Sangam Core Group felt the need to document and publicise the innovative work of communities and individuals in responding to the crises in various parts of India. The crises created by both the pandemic and even more so by the way the lockdown was enforced by the government, affected hundreds of millions of people in India. Over 90% of the country's workforce is in the informal or unorganized sectors, and the vast majority of primary and secondary sector producers are dependent on daily marketing to earn a livelihood. While the immediate humanitarian crisis is visible and has generated widespread spontaneous initiatives by civil society and by several state governments to provide relief, much less common are attempts to address root causes of the suffering. The COVID crisis has sharply exposed the deep faultlines of Indian economy, society and polity. But the responses of solidarity, resilience and innovation by some communities and institutions are also appearing as rays of hope. In this series of documents we presented such examples, from which crucial lessons can be learnt and adapted to achieve similar results elsewhere. We show how each of the major problems faced during COVID19 (all of which have been around for much longer, of course, but are more sharply visible now), has solutions.

This has resulted in five volumes of a series titled 'Extraordinary Work of 'Ordinary' People: Beyond Pandemics and Lockdowns', with about 60 stories of adivasi communities, women farmers and groups, youth, public health institutions, state government agencies, and others who have shown extraordinary resilience and coping mechanisms. All the volumes were also made available in multiple languages, and two of them also in graphic novel form. While a substantial part of the work was supported through projects described above, significant contribution has also been voluntary, and a result of collaboration with multiple other organisations and networks within and outside the Vikalp Sangam Core Group. The series is being continued in 2021.

The volumes are available here:

1. Full set:

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/extraordinary-work-of-ordinary-people-in-multi-language-translation/>

2. Extraordinary Work of 'Ordinary' People: Beyond Pandemics and Lockdowns

1st volume of 'Extraordinary Work of 'Ordinary' People: Beyond Pandemics and Lockdowns'

English: <http://vikalpsangam.org/article/extraordinary-work-of-ordinary-people-beyond-pandemics-and-lockdowns/#.XwWmPvkzZNA>

Malayalam / മലയാളം: <http://vikalpsangam.org/article/extraordinary-work-in-malayalam/#.XwWfBfkzZNA>

Hindi / हिन्दी: <http://vikalpsangam.org/article/extraordinary-work-in-hindi/#.XwWI3fkzZNA>

Gujarati / ગુજરાતી : <http://vikalpsangam.org/article/Extraordinary-Work-in-Gujarati/#.XwWinfkzZNA>

Tamil / தமிழ்: http://vikalpsangam.org/article/Extraordinary-Work-in-Tamil/#.XwWmE_kzZNA

Spanish / Espanol: <http://espai-marx.net/?p=7953>

Graphic novel version: <https://vikalpsangam.org/article/extraordinary-work-of-ordinary-people-graphic-novel-version/>

3. Community Forest Rights and the Pandemic: Gram Sabhas Lead the Way

2nd volume of 'Extraordinary Work of 'Ordinary' People: Beyond Pandemics and Lockdowns'

English: https://vikalpsangam.org/wp-content/uploads/migrate/Perspectives/cfr_and_the_pandemic_gs_lead_the_way_bulletin_5_oct2020.pdf

Malayalam / മലയാളം: https://vikalpsangam.org/wp-content/uploads/migrate/Perspectives/malayalam_cfr_and_the_pandemic_gs_lead_the_way-vol2.pdf

Tamil / தமிழ்: <https://kalpavriksh.org/publication/tamil-extraordinary-work-of-ordinary-people-beyond-pandemics-and-lockdowns-volume-2/>

Gujarati / ગુજરાતી: <https://kalpavriksh.org/publication/gujarati-extraordinary-work-of-ordinary-people-beyond-pandemics-and-lockdowns-vol-2/>

Gujarati / ગુજરાતી: <https://kalpavriksh.org/publication/gujarati-extraordinary-work-of-ordinary-people-beyond-pandemics-and-lockdowns-vol-2/>

Hindi / हिन्दी: 'साधारण' लोगों के असाधारण कार्य: महामारी एवं लॉकडाउन से परेश्रृंखला का खंड – २:

https://vikalpsangam.org/article/cfr-and-the-pandemic-in-hindi-ewop-vol2/#.X8LE_c0zaM8

Spanish / Espanol (online): <https://espai-marx.net/?p=9517>

Spanish / Espanol (pdf): https://kalpavriksh.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Los-derechos-forestales-comunitarios-y-la-pandemia_-las-Gram-Sabhas-muestran-el-camino.pdf

Graphic novel version: <https://kalpavriksh.org/publication/extraordinary-work-of-ordinary-people-graphic-novel-version-volume-2/>

Video introducing the report: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ao_TUkt3Alk&feature=emb_logo

4. Pandemic Resilience in the Western Himalayas

3rd volume of 'Extraordinary Work of 'Ordinary' People: Beyond Pandemics and Lockdowns'

English: https://vikalpsangam.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Pandemic-Resilience-in-the-WHimalayas_EWOP_Vol3_Feb2021.pdf

Tamil:

https://vikalpsangam.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Tamil_Pandemic-Resilience-in-the-W.Himalayas_EWOP_Vol.3_Feb.2021.pdf

Hindi / हिन्दी: <https://vikalpsangam.org/article/पश्चिमी-हिमालय-में-महामारी-से-मुकाबला-in-hindi/>

Spanish / Espanol (online): <https://espai-marx.net/?p=9743>

Spanish / Espanol (pdf): <https://kalpavriksh.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Resiliencia-ante-la-pandemia-en-el-Himalaya-Occidental.pdf>

(Urdu, coming up soon!)

5. Seeding Hope: Women's Collectives Create Pathways for Change

4th volume of 'Extraordinary Work of 'Ordinary' People: Beyond Pandemics and Lockdowns'

English:

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/womens-collectives-bring-change/>

<https://kalpavriksh.org/publication/extraordinary-work-of-ordinary-people-seeding-hope-womens-collectives-create-pathways-for-change-volume-4/>

(Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Marathi, Gujarati coming up)

6. Youth Stories of Hope, Resilience and Collective Dreaming

5th volume of 'Extraordinary Work of 'Ordinary' People: Beyond Pandemics and Lockdowns'

English:

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/youth-stories-of-hope-resilience-collective-dreaming/>

<https://kalpavriksh.org/new-extraordinary-work-of-ordinary-people-youth-stories-of-hope-resilience-and-collective-dreaming-volume-5/>

Malayalam: <https://kalpavriksh.org/publication/extraordinary-work-of-ordinary-people-youth-stories-of-hope-resilience-and-collective-dreaming-volume-5-malayalam/>

Hindi: <https://vikalpsangam.org/article/ewop5-youth-hindi-translation/>

D.7 Other Vikalp Sangam Engagements

D.7a Statements Issued

Statement by Vikalp Sangam Core Group in the form of a letter to The Editor, Business Standard, protesting the vilification of activists like Kavitha Kuruganti by Crop Care Federation of India in a full page advertorial (29.7.2020). Issued on 3.8.2020 Available at: <https://vikalpsangam.org/article/vscg-statement-on-ccfi-advertorial-3-aug-2020/>

Statement by Vikalp Sangam Core Group on the ongoing farmers' protest against the three agriculture-related laws passed by the Union govt in 2020: 'In support of the farmers' movement', 5.12.2020, <https://vikalpsangam.org/article/in-support-of-the-farmers-movement-statement/>

Statement on the Uttarakhand Tragedy by Vikalp Sangam Core Group, 25.2.2021,
<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/statement-on-the-uttarakhand-tragedy/>

D.7b Janta Parliament

Kalpavriksh with 8 other organisations and the Vikalp Sangam network organised the Environment session (18.8.2021) of the Janta Parliament (16-21 August 2020). Over four hours, several activists and researchers presented evidence of ecological and livelihoods destruction across India, as also alternative approaches. Topics covered included the draft 2020 EIA notification, mining, climate, natural ecosystems and wildlife, urban issues, energy, and the shrinking democratic spaces around all these. A set of resolutions on these and other topics was adopted, and sent to government agencies as also circulate publicly.

Press release: 'Janta Parliament calls on urgent action for ecological security', 19.8.2020,
<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/press-release-by-janta-parliament-जनत-संसद-18-aug-2020/>

Resolutions passed at this session (English/Hindi): https://vikalpsangam.org/article/janta-parliament-resolutions-passed-in-session-on-environment-18-august-2020/#.Xz6kvzVS_wo

Brief video presenting resolutions: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PM3zwVsMwDQ>

Longer video presenting resolutions: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tnCHR0vz70s>

Full recording of session: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iRuzHuH-o_k&t=38s

D.8 Websites

Vikalp Sangam Website (www.vikalpsangam.org)

The Vikalp Sangam website was initiated in 2014, to have one place where stories, perspectives, videos, events, and resources (including case studies, books, websites, and films) relating to alternatives in India could be made available. During the year 2020-21, about 150 stories and perspectives were added. In addition, some 40 stories (including a few of them case studies) were written specially for Vikalp Sangam.

Here are links to some of them.

1 सिर्फ दवासेहीनहीं, समुदायसेभीइलाज (in Hindi)

at <https://vikalpsangam.org/article/baba-m-sirf-davaa-se-naheen-in-hindi/>

2 विश्रामदेनेसेजीउठाजंगल (in Hindi)

at <https://vikalpsangam.org/article/jardhar-forest-revival-in-hindi/>

3 School Education Through Work & Action : What Might it Mean Today ?

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/school-education-through-work-action-what-might-it-mean-today/>

4 The Ecosystem of Learning

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/the-ecosystem-of-learning/>

5 चिन्हारी: दयंगइंडिया (in Hindi)

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/chinhari-young-women-chh-in-hindi/>

and a case study

6 Small scale decentralised processing of small millets

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/small-scale-decentralised-processing-of-small-millets/>

The series of documents 'Extraordinary Work of 'Ordinary' People' (described separately above) was also put up in all its versions, at:

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/extraordinary-work-of-ordinary-people-in-multi-language-translation/>

Members involved: Anuradha, Shrishtee, Shruti, Radhika, Ashish and Ashwin Parthasarathy (volunteer). Technical backup: ShrikanthAithala. Also inputs from VS Comms team (see above, **Project: Alternative Practices and Visions in India**).

Other activities include:

- vikalp-sangam-list@googlegroups.com e-group consisting of 700+ members to discuss various aspects of alternative endeavour, spread & exchange information and news/views, and announce events.
- A newsletter showing selected recent perspectives, story titles and images hyperlinked to the articles is sent out each month to many members of the e-group as well as to those who subscribe to the newsletter.
- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/VikalpSangam/>) has links to stories and perspectives and videos newly uploaded on the Vikalp Sangam website. The newsletter also appears on this.
- Easier access provided to case studies and videos through the Categories listed on website pages.

Vikalp Sutra website (<https://sutra.vikalpsangam.org>)

Linked to the Vikalp Sutra process, described above.

Radical Ecological Democracy website (see below)

SECTION 2: GLOBAL ACTIVITIES

D.9 Academic-Activist Co-generation of Knowledge on Environmental Justice (ACKnowl-EJ)

Project Coordinator: Ashish Kothari

Project Team: Neema Pathak, Radhika Mulay, Shristee Bajpai, Shruti Ajit, MeenalTatpati, Milind Wani, Kankana Trivedi, and Arpita Lulla

Year of Commencement: 2016

Year of Completion: 2019

Funds sanctioned: None (only follow up being reported here)

Funding agency: International Science Council

This global project, which Kalpavriksh co-coordinated with ICTA, Autonomous University of Barcelona, involved case studies, work on the EJ Atlas, and theorizing based on these, broadly around environmental justice. The project involved partners from several countries. The project ended in 2019, but some follow-up activities have continued into 2020-21.

The project report (English & Gujarati) can be found at: <https://vikalpsangam.org/article/sandhani-weaving-transformations-in-kachchh-india-key-findings-and-analysis/>

Six films were made linked to this project, and were released in December 2020. The films have documented the process as well as research outcomes of the project. They have been made following a participatory process by the young community members facilitated by Khamir, Kalpavriksh and Drishti (media and communication organisation in Ahmedabad).

Five thematic films were made covering: Gender, youth, economy, ecology and history of the community. One film documented the process of study. The films can be accessed here:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLOSdLSyPI-VyB8_ECBkTksbnC6_4NXzCg

Specific links for the six films:

Research project: Weaving a story વણવણી English: <https://youtu.be/tLqXRS-qJOI> Hindi:

<https://youtu.be/4fTeA8GIEqc>

Women: Broadening horizons for women મહાવિાઓમાટેઉઘડતીક્ષ્મતિજિો English: <https://youtu.be/hj5uX--csiI> Gujarati: <https://youtu.be/C4q8wWdPIHY>

Economics: Weaving: Towards Economic freedom વણાટ: આરથકિસ્વતંત્રતાલરફ English: <https://youtu.be/OvAb1tv7piM> Gujarati: <https://youtu.be/LrqN7p0dH28>

History: Weaving history વણાટનીઈતહિાસકથા English: <https://youtu.be/8P2x-HcG5Hc> Gujarati: <https://youtu.be/KtDwl3iNdLo>

Ecology: Weaving and environment વણાટઅનેપર્યાવરણ English: <https://youtu.be/8-INOifV91I> Gujarati: <https://youtu.be/5CcrIqCVthk>

Youth: New initiatives, new directions નવીપહેલ, નવીદિશાઓ English: <https://youtu.be/uaxwaqrEB5s> Gujarati: <https://youtu.be/OeH10aGdNcE>

D.9a Theory of Transformation

Kalpavriksh had taken the lead on a paper on the conceptual and theoretical understanding of transformation emerging from the project. Several iterations of the paper were produced for discussion within the full project team, and with the project advisory team. The paper was finalised in 2020, for publication in a book of the ACKnowl-EJ project's main outputs.

D.10 Indigenous and Traditional Worldviews Dialogue Process

Coordinators: Ashish Kothari, MeenalTatpati
Support Team: Shruti Ajit, Shrishtee Bajpai, Neema Pathak Broome
Year of Commencement: 2019
Year of Completion: 2020
Total Funds Sanctioned: INR 463,692
Funding Agency: NUR university, Bolivia through Full Circle Foundation

The resistance and alternative transformative movements initiated by indigenous and other local groups around the world, are based on or inspired by worldviews that are often fundamentally different from the mainstream neoliberal or state-centred narratives that are currently dominant. The Global Worldviews Dialogue process thus envisions the creation of a space of inter-cultural exchange for the articulation and sharing of worldviews and the knowledge systems, values and traditions that they inform, amongst these communities. This process builds on and will feed back into vibrant on-going processes of collaborative research undertaken by the Academic and Activist Co-produced Knowledge for Environmental Justice Project (ACKnowl_EJ) through the work of Kalpavriksh in India, Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB), UEA and GrupoConfluencias in Bolivia. The current project focuses on building towards this process through the documentation of worldviews of two communities through written, audio, audio-visual, or artistic forms (in each of these forms, primary 'voice' should be from within the community, and if possible, a diversity of voices from within it).

The project received an extension twice between March 2020 and March 2021 as it was not possible to carry our activities planned during the Covid period.

Documentation of Worldview of the women of the Raika pastoralist community

1. May 2020: 'Raika Women Speak' released and circulated in various groups.

This film is a snap shot narration of the articulations of Raika. It is an attempt to voice how the women in four villages around the Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, Pali, Rajasthan are navigating sedentarisation of an earlier

nomadic existence and dealing with shrinking access to grazing commons due to exclusionary conservation policies, privatization of grazing commons, and industrialisation of agriculture. Along with these external changes, the women reflect on their agency within their family, community, state institutions and discourses, and the course of the future for the community.

It can be accessed here: [Raika Women Speak - Articulation from four villages around Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan - YouTube](#)

2. July-October 2020: 13 villages in and around Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary held meetings and sent resolutions against the declaration of the Eco Sensitive Zones around Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary without involving gram sabhas. A short note and voice note made in Hindi regarding the process also distributed widely in the region.
3. December 2020-ongoing: While exact figures are unavailable, large numbers of pastoralists graze India's forests, grasslands and farm fallows, making significant contributions to India's food security, biodiversity, livelihoods and crafts. Despite this, they remain marginalised, their mobility often seen as a lifestyle that needs to give way to a more settled mode. Kalpavriksh, Centre for Pastoralism and the Indian Commoner started 'Pastoral Dialogues' a set of curated conversations on all things pastoral, covering the histories, lives and cultures of these communities. The idea behind these dialogues was the shared belief that although pastoralism as a livelihood contributes to India's food security, biodiversity conservation and even arts and crafts and provides sustenance to almost 30-35 million people, these narratives are still very invisible and therefore are left out in policy spaces and ignored by society at large. The dialogues can be accessed here: [Pastoral Dialogues - YouTube](#)
4. January 2021-Ongoing: Collation of videos interviews with villagers in and around Kumbhalgarh WLS on issues of upcoming national park and youth who have restarted pastoralism.

D.11 Global Tapestry Of Alternatives

Project Coordinator: Ashish Kothari

Initial Team: Ashish Kothari, Sujatha Padmanabhan, Shrishtee Bajpai, Milind Wani

Current Team: Ashish Kothari, Shrishtee Bajpai (with project member Upamanyu Das)

Year of Commencement: 2019

Year of Completion: Ongoing

Funds sanctioned: N.A

Funding agency: N.A

Launched in mid-2019, the Global Tapestry of Alternatives (GTA) aims to gradually *weave* together the various networks and movements towards radical alternatives around the world. It proposes to be a platform and a process, not an organisation or formal network. Apart from stimulating exchanges and collaborations amongst existing networks, it hopes also to encourage and help start further networking of the kind that Vikalp Sangam (or other processes like Crianza Mutua in Mexico) carry out.

A core team of volunteers from various parts of the world, formulated in 2019, has been actively involved in initiating dialogue and expanding the net of endorsers and partners. Endorsements have been obtained from about 50 key global/regional movements and networks, and several dozen well-known individuals, to lend the process credibility and global reach.

In 2020, given the pandemic situation, considerable activity moved online. This included a series of webinars on Alternatives in the Time of Global Crises, 16 episodes of which were carried out (see <https://globaltapestryofalternatives.org/webinars>).

GTA has also initiated a newsletter every two months (<https://globaltapestryofalternatives.org/newsletters:index>) to share perspectives, news on activities being seeded through GTA, as well as perspectives/news/thoughts/questions from

tapestry weavers and endorsing organisations and networks. The newsletter attempts to facilitate a process of knowing each others' work, engaging with ideas, facilitating collaborations and initiating co-writing and co-learning processes.

Inspired by the Indian Vikalp Sangam series of documents 'Extraordinary Work of 'Ordinary' People, see above), the GTA team has been compiling two volumes on community resilience and solidarity in COVID times. The team will be documenting to present concrete examples of solidarity actions and movements that have emerged during COVID-19, the lessons we can learn from political organizing during the pandemic around the world, as well as the opportunities that lay ahead of us in terms of consolidating concrete strategies to move towards systemic change.

The Core team participated and presented the GTA at the World Social Forum International council meetings held in the 2nd half of 2020 to explore convergences, build alliances and express the unique contribution that it is making in the global movements that are attempting to re-articulate our resistances and alternatives. During the process GTA also helped initiate dialogue among the following eight global processes on possible collaborative action on global crises and radical alternatives:

- [Global Dialogue Process](#)
- [Global Green New Deal](#)
- [Global Tapestry of Alternatives](#)
- [Global Working Group Beyond Development](#)
- [Grassroots to Global](#)
- [Progressive International](#)
- [Towards a New World Social Forum](#)
- [World Social Forum](#)

GTA actively participated at the Virtual World Social Forum 2021. Initiated, co-organised and presented in dialogues on crucial themes like Power and Democracy, Parliament of World Citizenship, Global Dialogue on Solidarity and Mutual Aid, Climate & Ecology and Environment Space, Rural environmental struggles for system change, and Zapatista visions, voices and practices. All the sessions recordings and details are [available online](#).

GTA has also initiated PeDAGoG (Post-Development Academic-Activist Global Group) a global network of academics and academic-activists interested in post-development, radical alternatives, and related themes, initiated in early 2020. The main idea is to share existing course curricula, materials, methods/pedagogy, and approaches; propose new ones; coordinate programmes across different geographies and cultures; and be able to offer learning experiences to people in various parts of the world, especially the global south. And through all this, contribute to the movements for radical, systemic transformation. An online meeting of the members was held on 8 July 2020; subsequent action has been slow in getting off the ground, but there has been some sharing of alternative course materials, pedagogies, etc.

D.12 REDWeb (Radical Ecological Democracy website)

Project Coordinator: Ashish Kothari
Project Team: Pallav Das, Pramod Sadalage (voluntary)
Year of Commencement: 2018
Year of Completion: ongoing
Funds sanctioned (2020-21): 20,000 Euro and US\$15,000
Funding agency: Misereor and Full Circle Foundation respectively

Kalpavriksh launched a new website, www.radicalecologicaldemocracy.org, in September 2017. This is the global equivalent of its Vikalp Sangam site, and features radical alternatives from various parts of the world.

The website (REDWeb) entered its fourth year of operation in 2020. While, like in the rest of the world, the functioning of the website, too, was impacted by the on-going Covid-19 pandemic, it has not only been able to ride the storm but has

also made steady progress in disseminating its message to a wide readership. In its pursuit of providing a credible platform to initiatives crafting “alternatives” to ecological and economic disasters unfolding all over the world, REDWeb has expanded its coverage of explorations occurring worldwide and also provided opportunities to a wider circle of thinkers, activists, academics, journalists and other professionals to contribute to the growing discussion on the issue. One of the highlights of the website’s continuing intellectual evolution is the deliberate effort it has made to understand the synergy between social movements for change and their direct or implicit search for “alternatives”. A number of our articles have made that an important priority. As the times would have it, the discussion on the Covid 19 pandemic and its societal implications as well as the need to push for alternatives to the status quo is also a key focus.

Key Statistics

While this year the number of articles on the Radical Ecological Democracy website went down due to the impact of the pandemic, the average number of visitors per day saw an increase of 45%. The average readership of an article also held steady. Some of the key statistics are as follows:

- Number of articles – 17
- Number of countries covered in the articles – 12
- Total readership – 41553
- Average readership of an article – 2444
- Average traffic per day – 114
- Highest readership for an article – 4608

Outreach

In person outreach efforts were severely hampered by the pandemic and the website had to rely on online opportunities to do so. Virtual seminars were presented to audiences at Columbia University, USA and the University of Bonn, Germany, by the website editor/curator, Pallav Das. Two more seminars organized at the University of Bonn, unfortunately, had to be cancelled due to Covid. In the meantime, Ashish Kothari, the Project Coordinator has been actively promoting the website as well as its chief ideas in online webinars, conferences and lectures. He has also been writing on the larger issue of alternatives in various magazines and journals.

Future Plans

We continue to be keen to explore the possibility of starting an audio-visual counterpart to the online website. We recognize that in the last four years, the articles and discussions featured on REDWeb have created a substantial repository of ideas which can be given an audio-visual treatment to reach out to a larger audience. In fact, it is also possible to craft small segments concerning the issues of alternatives, movements, resistance and building a sustainable future, which could be featured on relevant broadcast networks. We will continue to explore that possibility through our networks.

D.13 Rights of Rivers South Asia

Project Coordinator: Shrishtee Bajpai and Ashish Kothari

Year of Commencement: 2019

Year of Completion: 2021

Funds sanctioned: 7,500 USD = 5,48,285 INR

Funding agency: Global Green Grants

Following up on a South Asia level workshop on Rights of Rivers that Kalpavriksh organised along with International Rivers and Legal Initiative for Forest & Environment (LIFE) in March 2020, a Rights of Rivers South Asia (RoRSA) network was initiated. With no possibility of physical gathering in 2020-21, RoRSA focused on a series of online meetings, building the

network, clarifying its objectives, functions and structure, setting up a website (<https://www.rorsa.org>) and 'social media' presence, and planning activities to use the funds remaining in the grant. The grant period was extended to June 2021, given the COVID19 situation. Action research on two rivers, a graphic novel, and zines are being worked on.

Members involved: Shrishtee Bajpai, Ashish Kothari

D.13a Bioregionalism Working Group

One of the decisions taken at the Democracy Vikalp Sangam in October 2019, was to work on the concept and practice of 'bioregionalism'. This would look at large landscapes and seascapes from the perspective of their ecological and cultural connectivities, and re-imagining political decision-making based on this. The group got going only by May 2020, inviting a number of people from the South Asian region to join.

In a discussion to ground the group in the concept and explore possible directions of work, questions that were explored included:

- *What does bioregionalism mean to you?*
- *How do you define your approach as similar/different than bioregional approach?*
- *If different, what are the advantages in your approach as against a bioregional approach?*
- *What are the possibilities and challenges in applying a bioregionalist perspective to different geographic contexts?*

The report is at: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1m4UQoujjiMdXUscbnBzPqSL0-l2zc9MtMC0qA6drcw/edit>

Subsequently it invited talks by researchers and activists from Nepal, Australia, and India who are working on conceptualising and acting on bioregional approaches, and worked out a plan of action to be carried out in 2021-22, utilising some funds that are likely to be available.

Members involved: Shrishtee Bajpai, Ashish Kothari, Neema Pathak Broome

D.13b Other Global Collaborations

KV members Ashish Kothari and Neema Pathak Broome continue to be part of the Global Working Group 'Beyond Development', supported by the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation. Ashish was also part of its Facilitation Team till mid-2020. This included helping in follow up to the open call for submissions to a dialogue on democracy, and some inputs to set up the group's website (<https://beyonddevelopment.net>).

Ashish continues to be a member of International Commission of the Sacred Headwaters Initiative (<https://sacredheadwaters.org>), a process started by several indigenous peoples and civil society organisations in Ecuador, Peru, and elsewhere, to protect 30 million hectares of the Amazonian forest and the indigenous territories, from extractive industries and mining. Not much activity took place due to the COVID pandemic in 2020-21, other than some correspondence in relation to the process of making a bioregional plan for the region.

PART B: PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS

A. Kalpavriksh Publications and Outputs

A.1 Published Books and Reports

- Miracle on Sunderbaag Street by Nandita da Cunha; illustrated by Priya Kuriyan
- Saahi's Quest by M.Yuvan; illustrated by Anusha Menon
- Travelling Seeds; text and illustrations by Lavanya Karthik
- September 2020: [Policy Brief on the Critical Willife Habitat provision to be implemented in Protected Areas in India under the Forest Rights Act](#) published by Kalpavriksh and ATREE. It has also been translated into Hindi. (Neema Pathak Broome, Meenal Tatpati, Akshay Chettri).
- 17th August 2020: [Community Forest Rights At a Glance \(2017-20\)](#) the annual report on CFRs produced by Kalpavriksh and Community Forest Rights-Learning and Advocacy Process (Kankana Trivedi, Meenal Tatpati, Akshay Chettri, Shruti Ajit)

A.2 Unpublished Books and Reports

A.3 Newsletters and Legislation Briefs

-

A.4 Letters and Petitions

- 17th April 2020: [Petition against 'Advisory regarding the containing and management of COVID 19 in National Parks/Sanctuaries and Wildlife Reserves :Meenal Tatpati, Neema Pathak Broome](#)

A.5 Audiovisual Outputs

(For films, webinar recordings and other videos, please see project activities reported in Part A)

B. Other Publications

B.1 Books and Reports

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B.2 Papers

-

B.3 Articles

- (in French: Le « Green New Deal » est-il nouveau pour le Sud ?, *PlateformeAltermondialiste*, 2.6.2020, <https://alter.quebec/le-green-new-deal-est-il-nouveau-pour-le-sud/>; in Spanish: Sin daño aquí no significa que no hayadaño allí: el GreenNew Deal y el Sur Global, *EspaiMarx*, 7.6.2020, <http://espai-marx.net/?p=7751>)
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PART C: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

(Note: Owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, most of these events were held virtually.)

April

- 9: Presentation on global crises to ICCA Consortium (Ashish)
- 11: Presentation on Ecology, Food, and Justice to group of climate activists (Ashish)
- 14: Participation in Global Working Group Beyond Development 1st discussion on Democracy (Ashish)
- 17: GTA webinar 1 – COVID19: A Potential Opening for Just Transitions, Patrick Bond and Rehad Desai
- 18: VikalpVarta 1 – Gurgaon Farmers' Market, Manas Arvind
- 25: VikalpVarta 2 – Self-reliant Village Economy: Dalit women farmers' journey to food sovereignty, Deccan Development Society
- 30: Keynote address in Farming the City convention, People's Resource Centre (Ashish)
- 30: Panelist on 'What World after Pandemic' webinar, Global Dialogue for Systemic Change (Ashish)

May

- 1: VikalpVarta 3 - Youth weave a new story in Kachchh, Young weavers of Kachchh
- 2: GTA webinar 2 – COVID19: A Response from NayakrishiAndolan, Bangladesh, Farhad Mazhar and Farida Akhter
- 9: VikalpVarta 4 - Innovation and Transformation through Local Panchayats (Kuthambakkam, Tamil Nadu), ElangoRangasamy
- 15: GTA webinar 3 – COVID19: Moving towards a Commons Future, Ana Margarida Esteves
- 16: VikalpVarta 5 – Reviving Barter & Traditional Occupations to Revitalise Rural Economies - Goonj, Meenakshi Gupta & Anshu Gupta
- 19: Panelist on 'Towards a Transformative Political Economy', in 'Re-imagining the Future' series, several organisations including Kalpavriksh (Ashish)
- 21: Panelist on 'Pluriverse' webinar, University of California Santa Barbara (Ashish)
- 22: Panelist on 'Post-COVID – Mainstreaming Biodiversity and Nature in Development', International Biodiversity Congress (Ashish)
- 23: VikalpVarta 6 - Panchayat's Response through Self-Governance and Inter-generational Learning, Kunariya (Kachchh), Suresh Chhanga & members of panchayat
- 25th : Online story telling session with *Critters Around Our Homes* for Thicket Tales Weekend Wild talk (Sanjay Sondhi).
- 29: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj', Sangat (Ashish)
- 30: VikalpVarta 7 - Our Health, Our Wealth: Adivasis show the way to self-reliance, Amhi Amchya Aarogyasathi, Satish Gogulwar & Shubhada Deshmukh
- 31st : Online story telling session and animation film screening with *Shero To The Rescue* for Thicket Tales Weekend Wild talk (Ashish Kothari and Anusha Menon).

June

- 1: GTA webinar 4 – Indigenous Resistance in Time of Crisis', Xochitl Leyva-Solano

- 3: Presentation on 'Business and Radical Ecological Democracy', Degrowth Summer School (Ashish)
- 4: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj', webinar on 'Global Environmental Paradigms', Indian Peoples' Theatre Association (Ashish)
- 5: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' to Youth4Swaraj (Ashish)
- 5: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' to All India Women's Conference (Ashish)
- 5: Panelist on 'Sustainable Livelihoods', Annadata& other organisations (Ashish)
- 6: VikalpVarta 8 - *This is our city too! Community mobilisation in Bhuj, Kachchh*, Homes in the City programme
- 7: Presentation on 'Environment & Development', SPICMACAY (Ashish)
- 16: GTA webinar 5 – 'COVID19: Peoples' Strike, Floyd Rebellion, and Resistance', Kali Akuno
- 17-18: Vikalp Sangam Core Group meeting (Sujatha, Shrishtee, Ashish)
- 19: Vikalp Sutra meeting with national groups & networks (Ashish)
- 20: VikalpVarta 9 - *Learning to Connect Back with Nature, Land and People*, Marudam Farm School
- 24: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' to Extinction Rebellion India (Ashish)
- 24: Panelist on 'Bringing Voices of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities into Global Arenas', Voices for Biojustice series, Darwin Initiative, People & Plants, Swift Foundation, etc (Ashish)
- 24th: Webinar on Understanding the Process to declare Critical Wildlife Habitats under FRA co-organised with ATREE and CnL team (Neema Pathak Broome, Meenal Tatpati, Akshay Chettri) for expert committee members of PAs in Maharashtra and Project Officers of the Tribal Development Department of Maharashtra.
- 25: Panelist in opening session of World Social Forum on Transformative Economies (Ashish)
- 26: GTA webinar 6 – 'COVID19: Responses from the Kurdish Women's Movement', DilarDirik
- 27: VikalpVarta 10 – Inner Work for Social Change, Youth Alliance
- 27: GTA session on COVID time solidarity, with Global Dialogue for Sustainable Change, at World Social Forum on Transformative Economies

July

- 1: Participation in Global Working Group Beyond Development discussion on Democracy (Neema, Shrishtee, Ashish)
- 4: Panelist on 'Innovation in Craft', Chennai International Centre (Ashish)
- 5: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj', Ecosophy course, Ashoka University
- 8: First meeting of PEDAGOG (Post-Development Academic-Activist Global Group) (Vandana, Shrishtee, Ashish)
- 11: Presentation on 'Ecological Justice and Social Transformation', at South-South Forum on Sustainability, Global Sustainability University (Ashish)
- 11: VikalpVarta 11 – Resilience of Collaborative Markets, ACCORD & Just Change, Stan Thakaekare& Anil Misquith
- 12: Presentation on 'Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Heritage', Centre for Heritage Management, Ahmedabad University (Ashish)
- 13: Participation in ICCA Consortium 10th Anniversary webinar 'Roots' (Shruti, Ashish, Neema, Meenal)
- 15: GTA webinar 7 – 'COVID19: Visioning the Future: May First Movement Technology', Melanie Bush, Alfredo Lopez, Jerome Scott, Samantha Camacho

17th: Meeting on future of Van Panchayats in Uttarakhand with members of local organisations (Neema Pathak Broome and Meenal Tatpati)

19: 'Green Catalyst' conversation, Paryavaran Mitra (Ashish)

19: Solidarity address to Amazonia Assembly (Ashish)

20: Keynote address on 'Ecoswaraj' to 'Commons, Degrowth, and Post-Development' workshop of IASC Commons conference, Institute for Humanity and Nature (Ashish)

22: Panelist on closing panel, IASC-RIHN conference (Ashish)

23: Participation in ICCA Consortium 10th Anniversary webinar 'Responsibility' (Shruti, Ashish)

25: VikalpVarta 12 - *Learning, Healing, Creating and Communing in Jail*, Diken, Swaraj Jail University

29: Panelist on 'Professors of Practice' discussion, National Law School of India University (Ashish)

30th: Session with the *The Poop Book!* at The Alliance Francais in Suva, Fiji (Tejaswini Apte-Rahm)

31: GTA webinar 8 – 'COVID19: Potato Park - Defending the Past to Envision the Future', RicardinaPacco, AnicetoCcoyo, Marano Sutta, Lino Mamani

August

7: Chair 'Political and Economic Democracy' session of 'Re-imagining the Future' series, several organisations including Kalpavriksh (Ashish)

8: VikalpVarta 13 - Sustainable Livelihoods: Women Lead the Way!, AkoleTsuhand Seno Tsuhah, North East Network

13: Presentation of 'Environment' session at Press Conference of Janta Parliament (Ashish)

14: GTA webinar 9 – 'COVID19: A Dialogue on Economy of Well-being', Katherine Trebeck& Lorenzo Fioramonti

15: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj& Rainbow Recovery', to Fridays for Future India (Ashish)

16: Presentation on 'Community Banking and Ethics', panel on 'Economists' View on Future of Banks and Bankers', People First (Ashish)

18: Co-organising 'Environment' session of Janta Parliament (Ashish, Shrishtee), with several other organisations

18: Panelist on 'Draft EIA Notification 2000' webinar, Impact and Policy Research Institute (Ashish)

22: VikalpVarta 14 - *City Goes Local with its Food System!*, Gijs Spoor and Anjali Schiavina, Pondichery Food System

23-24: Participation in 'Great Unravelling' workshop (Ashish)

24: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' to Srishti Institute of Art and Media (Ashish)

25: Address to 'EIA Satyagraha' national call (Ashish)

25th: Community Conserved Areas in South Asia Webinar 1: Fishing Communities in Loktak Lake by Salam Rajesh (Neema Pathak Broome, Shruti Ajit and Tanya Majmudar)

26: Presentation of Environment resolution of Janta Parliament to Members of Parliament (Ashish)

27: Panelist on 'Future is Local' webinar of Bhoomi College (Ashish)

28: Chair of 'Food, Economy, Ecology' webinar of 'Re-imagining the Future' series, several organisations including Kalpavriksh (Ashish)

28: GTA webinar 10 – 'A Critical Dialogue on Degrowth Movements', Vincent Liegey& Anitra Nelson

September

- 1: Panelist on 'Pathways for Future-1: Natural Resources - Jal, Jangal, Jameen', 'Re-imagining the Future' series, several organisations including Kalpavriksh (Ashish)
- 2: Panelist on 'Contextualising the Current Times', CEPT University (Ashish)
- 2: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj', Institute of Engineers, Intersociety, and others (Ashish)
- 4: Chair 'Uncultivated Foods' webinar, ASHA (Ashish)
- 5: VikalpVarta 15 – 'Participatory Guarantee Scheme: *Towards Organic Certification, Democratically!*', Kartik Gunasekar
- 8th : Community Conserved Areas in South Asia Webinar 2: Wetland Conservation in Vidarbha by Manish Rajankar and Shalu Kohle (Shruti Ajit, Tanya Majmudar and Neema Pathak Broome)
- 9: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' to Arab Youth Climate network (Ashish)
- 15: Chair of 'Re-imagining the Future' series closing session, several organisations including Kalpavriksh (Ashish)
- 18: Presentation on 'Sandhani: Transformations Amongst Handloom Weavers of Kachchh', in 'Sustainability in Crafts Sector' webinar, All India Artisans & Craftspersons Welfare Association (Ashish)
- 18: GTA webinar 11 – 'COVID19: 10,000 Years of Winter Fisheries Endangered', TeroMustonen
- 19: Panelist on 'Development and Adivasis' webinar, Bahai Chair for Studies in Development, Devi AhilyaVishvavidyalaya (Ashish)
- 19: VikalpVarta 16 - Collective Ownership and Governance of Jal, Jangal and Zameen, Maati members
- 20: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' to Australian National University (Ashish)
- 22nd : Community Conserved Areas in South Asia Webinar 3: Van Panchayats in Uttarakhand by Malika Viridi, Beena Nitwal and Rekha Rautela (Neema Pathak Broome, Shruti Ajit and Tanya Majmudar)
- 23: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' to Yale University Singapore (Ashish)
- 23: Panelist on 'Community Conservation' webinar, WWF-International (Neema, Ashish)
- 24: Dialogue on 'What Kind of Economy Do We Want?', Ecological Society & ATREE (Ashish)
- 25-26: KV AGBM
- 25: Participation in Climate Strike action, Pune (Ashish)
- 26-27: Participation in World Social Forum International Council meeting with global movements (Ashish)
- 27: Presentation on 'Green New Deal & Ecoswaraj' to Climate Buddies (Ashish)
- 28: Participation in Global Working Group Beyond Development 3rd discussion on Democracy (Ashish)
- 30: Presentation on 'Gandhi, Self-reliance, Swaraj' to Department of Social Work, Delhi University (Ashish)

October

- 1: Presentation of 'Sandhani: Transformations Amongst Handloom Weavers of Kachchh' to University of Ottawa (Ashish)
- 3: VikalpVarta 17 – 'Is Art Irrelevant?', T.M. Krishna
- 3rd: Online book release and story telling session of *Saahi's Quest* by M. Yuvan in collaboration with Thicket Tales (Tanya Majmudar, Sujatha Padmanabhan)
- 4: GTA webinar 12 – 'Women Farmers Adapt and Innovate in India', MAKAAM

- 4th: Online book release and story telling session of *The Miracle on Sunderbaag Street* by Nandita da Cunha in collaboration with Story Station's Katha Mehfil (Tanya Majmudar, Sujatha Padmanabhan)
- 5: Presentation of 'Sandhani: Transformations Amongst Handloom Weavers of Kachchh' to Azim Premji University (Ashish)
- 6: Book reading & animation of 'Shero' to Mumbai International School (Ashish with Anusha Menon)
- 6: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' for 'Planet Talks' series, Impact and Policy Research Institute and India Water Portal (Ashish)
- 6th : Online story telling and animation film screening of *Shero To The Rescue* at Bombay International School (Ashish Kothari and Anusha Menon)
- 6th : Community Conserved Areas in South Asia Webinar 4: Community Conserved Areas in Arunachal Pradesh by Jam Tsering, Pema Wange Lham, Kamal Medhi and Pijush K Dutta (Shruti Ajit, Tanya Majmudar and Neema Pathak Broome)
- 8: Panelist on 'Science for a Sustainable Future' webinar, Springer Nature & Sustainable Development Solutions Network (Ashish)
- 8th : Conflict Map release (Neema P. Broome, Meenal Tatpati, Akshay Chettri)
- 10th : Online book release of *Travelling Seeds* and session on seeds by Lavanya Karthik in collaboration with Story Station's Katha Mehfil (Tanya Majmudar, Sujatha Padmanabhan)
- 11: Panelist on talk by Satish Kumar, EcoExist (Ashish)
- 11: Panelist on 'Sustainable Future: Dream or Reality?' webinar by Rotaract International District 3142 (Ashish)
- 14: Presentation on 'Earth Vikalp Sangam: Global Tapestry of Alternatives Towards Justice and Sustainability', University of Padova (Ashish)
- 15: Panelist on 'What are Livelihoods', in 'Livelihoods Mela', Indian Multiverities Alliance (Ashish)
- 17: VikalpVarta 18 - *Weaving together health care, food, farming, craft, education and self-governance*, Lalitha, Madeshwari, and Regi, Tribal Health Initiative
- 20th : Virtual Meeting of the Regional Coordination Committee of CCA South Asia (Neema Pathak Broome, Shruti Ajit and Tanya Majmudar)
- 23: GTA webinar 13 – 'Self-determination and Coping with COVID19 in Indigenous Lomerio, Bolivia', Elmar Masay, Maria Chore, Mirna Inturias, Iokine Rodriguez
- 24: Presentation of Vikalp Sangam framework to Yugma Network (Ashish)
- 29: Book reading & animation of 'Shero' to Mumbai International School (Ashish with Anusha Menon)
- 31: VikalpVarta 19 – Young Women Discover their Surroundings through Collective Action, Pooja, Hema, Swarnima, Lalitha, and Keshwati (Chinhari)
- 31: Panelist on 'Sustainable Earth Summit', Svadhyaya Youth Organisation (Ashish)

November

- 6: Panelist on 'Food, Land and Environment' in National Workshop on Social Audits, MKS, Right to Food Campaign, NCPRI, etc (Ashish)
- 8: Keynote presentation on 'Building Community Resilience in the Face of Global Crises' to Local Conference of Youth (LCOY2020), Brahmakumaris & other organisation (Ashish)
- 9: Presentation on 'Gandhi Lives' to National Institute of Naturopathy (Ashish)

10th : Community Conserved Areas in South Asia Webinar 5: Culture and Conservation in the Dibang Valley of Arunachal Pradesh by Achili Mihu, Jibi Pulu, Iho Mitapo and Sahil Nijhawan (Shruti Ajit, Tanya Majmudar and Neema Pathak Broome)

11: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj and Rainbow Recovery' to Earth Jurisprudence Africa, Gaia Foundation (Ashish)

13: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj and Vikalp Sangam' to UNDP Asia-Pacific (Ashish with KJ Joy)

13: Discussion on 'Climate Justice and Ecoswaraj', University of California Santa Barbara (Ashish)

21: VikalpVarta 20 – 'Urban Agriculture, Aditi Deodhar, Priya Bhide, Rajendra Ravi

22: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' to Swadeshabhimani journalism course, Vakkom Moulavi Foundation Trust (Ashish)

23: Panelist in 'Localisation the Transformation in the New Normal' webinar, South Asia People's Forum (Ashish)

24: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' to Ideosync-UNESCO Information Fellowship (Ashish)

24th: Community Conserved Areas in South Asia Webinar 6: Khumbu- Sherpa Territories of Life in the Mount Everest Region by Tenzing Tashi Sherpa (Shruti Ajit, Tanya Majmudar and Neema Pathak Broome)

26: Presentation on 'Agroecology &Ecoswaraj' to Kolkata University Agroecology course (Ashish)

26: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' to Indo-German Dialogue on Green Urban Practices (Ashish)

26th : Presented 'Regulation of Forests and Biodiversity in India' at the virtual Train the Trainers Program organised by the Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University. (Meenal Tatpati, Neema Pathak Broome)

28: Presentation on 'Alternatives Transformation Framework' in Youth VikalpSangam (Ashish)

29: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' to Convivial Thinking (Ashish)

30th: ICCA Consortium General Assembly (Neema Pathak Broome, Shruti Ajit and Tanya Majmudar)

December

1: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' to Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeeth (Ashish)

1st- 4th : ICCA Consortium General Assembly (Neema Pathak Broome, Shruti Ajit and Tanya Majmudar)

3: GTA webinar 14 – 'Cities of Dignity: Urban transformation around the world', several speakers from Brazil, India, Philippines, Nigeria, USA

3: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' to Schumacher College (Ashish)

4: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' to Azim Premji University (Shrishtee& Ashish)

4: Participation in call for Indian edition of World Social Forum (Ashish)

5: VikalpVarta 21 - : Bringing Learning Back into the Hands of Local Communities, Christoph, Alison, Rachana, and Abhijit (Project DEFY)

8th : Community Conserved Areas in South Asia Webinar 7: Non-violence and biocultural conservation in Tumba by Nima Lama and Narendra Lama (Shruti Ajit, Tanya Majmudar and Neema Pathak Broome)

10: Presentation on 'Utopias' to Institute of Foreign Relations, Germany (Ashish)

12-13: Vikalp Sangam Core Group annual meeting

14: Chair of 'Socio-ecological and Cultural Costs of Energy Transitions', Centre for Financial Accountability (Ashish)

16: Panelist on 'A World with Drugs: Legal Regulation through a Development Lens', Health Poverty Action & other groups (Ashish)

17: GTA webinar 15 – ‘Capitalism, Its Crises and Its Alternatives’, Lara Monticelli&Suryamayi Clarence-Smith

17: Presentation on ‘Community Resilience and Ecoswaraj’ in ‘Social Movements, Solidarity and Democracy: One Year after Pandemic’, College d’Etudes Mondiales (Ashish)

19: Vikalp Sutra national meeting (Ashish)

28: Presentation on ‘Ecoswaraj’ in workshop on ‘Building Solidarity in Youth, Women and Indigenous Peoples on Climate Crisis’, Living Farms, GRAIN & Rosa Luxemburg Stichtung (Ashish)

January

3: Presentation on ‘Environmental Justice’ to VikalpPluriversity, Fridays for Future India and Vikalp Sangam

11-14: Visit to Kunariya Panchayat, Kachchh, for case study on governance (Ashish)

16: Presentation on ‘Ecoswaraj’, Dr. Varghese Kurien Memorial Lecture, XLRI School of Management (Ashish)

22: GTA webinar 16 – ‘African Ecofeminist Alternatives to Development for a Just and Resilient Post-Extractivist Future’, Zo Randriamaro, Ange-David Baimey, Nonhle Mbuthuma

23: Panelist in inaugural session of World Social Forum (Ashish)

27: Keynote presentation on ‘Transformation in Global South’, in ‘Transformational Change for Biodiversity Conservation’ conference, International Academy of Nature Conservation (Ashish)

27: Panelist in ‘Global Citizens’ Parliament’ session at World Social Forum, by Convivialists International & other groups (Ashish)

28: Chair of ‘Power & Democracy: Despair & Hope’ session at World Social Forum, by Global Tapestry of Alternatives and others (Ashish)

29: South Asia Bioregionalism Working Group session on ‘Australia’s Great Eastern Ridge Initiative’, Ian Pulsford

30: Participation in Global Assembly of Movements at World Social Forum, by GTA & other global processes (Ashish, Shrishtee)

31: Panelist on ‘Translating Understanding into Action for Sustainability’, by Ecological Society and ATREE (Ashish)

31: Panelist on ‘Envision 2050: Designing Sustainable Futures’, EarthHacks& Arizona State University (Shrishtee, Ashish)

February

1: Presentation on ‘Rights of Nature & Rights of Rivers’ to Tata Institute of Social Sciences (Shrishtee, Ashish)

2: Presentation on ‘Ecoswaraj’ to Central University of Kashmir (Ashish)

3: Chair session on ‘Environment and Budget 2021: Business as Usual?’, by Impact and Policy Research Institute (Ashish)

9th : Community Conserved Areas in South Asia Webinar 8: Orans- Sacred Spaces in Rajasthan by Aman Singh, Aditi Veena and Sumersingh Bhati (Shruti Ajit, Tanya Majmudar and Neema Pathak Broome)

12: South Asia Bioregionalism Working Group session on ‘Bioregional approaches for North Indian rivers’, Manu Bhatnagar

13: Panelist on ‘Changemakers, Communities and Values in Development’, in Maru Manthan by URMUL (Ashish)

14: Presentation on environmental issues, Kalpavriksh and intersectionality, at Dishom Youth Leadership programme, Panchagani (Ashish)

- 16: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj & Rainbow Recovery' in 'Bringing Back Green' programme, St. Thomas College of Teacher Education (Ashish)
- 22: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' at Founders Day, Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology (Ashish)
- 22: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' to University Andina Simon Bolivar (Ashish)
- 23: Panelist on opening plenary of World Forum of Sociology, International Sociological Association (Ashish)
- 25: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' to Environmental Justice course, Northwestern University (Ashish)
- 25th : Online story telling session with Ghost of the Mountains for Rajghat Beasant School Literary Festival (Sujatha Padmanabhan)
- 26: Panelist on 'Youth Rights Consultation' of Samvada Youth Work Resource Centre (Ashish)
- 26: Panelist on 'Democracy, Inequalities, Intersectionality'; and Chair of session on 'Socio-ecological Transformations to Justice', World Forum of Sociology, International Sociological Association (Ashish)
- 27: Chair of and presentation on 'Transformation' at session on 'Social Movements for Environmental Justice and Local Governance', World Forum of Sociology, International Sociological Association (Ashish)
- 27th : Organised "Co-existence in Wildlife Habitats: Is positive interaction between Tigers and Humans possible" a webinar.

March

- 2: Presentations on 'Environment & Development' and 'Ecoswaraj' to Dishom Youth Leadership programme, Panchgani (Ashish)
- 4: Presentation on 'Environmental Aspects of 2021 Budget' in Janta Parliament on 2021 Budget (Ashish)
- 6: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' to Ecological Society, Pune (Ashish)
- 6th Guest appearance at Funky Rainbow's Book Bazaar on occasion of World Wildlife Day (Sujatha Padmanabhan)
- 9th : Community Conserved Areas in South Asia Webinar 9: Grasslands in Central India by Kaustubh Pandharipande, Dhananjay Newadkar, Jayaji Paikrao and Kuldip Rathod (Shruti Ajit, Tanya Majmudar and Neema Pathak Broome)
- 13: Chair of session on 'Revisiting Sociology of Movements: Farmers' Agitation in India', Dept of Sociology, Pune University (Ashish)
- 13: GTA webinar 1 of series 2 – 'Feminist Alternatives to 'New Normality'
- 19-21: Participation/speaking in workshop on 'Pluriverse: An Immersion into Plural Worlds of Justice for Working Youth', Swaraj University, Udaipur (Sujatha, Ashish, Vasudha)
- 19th -21st : "Pluriverse – An immersion into plural worlds of justice" at Swaraj University in Udaipur, Rajasthan (Sujatha Padmanabhan, Ashish Kothari)
- 26: Presentation on 'COVID Time Solidarity' in 'Solidarity and Decolonisation' workshop, Solidarity in Action Network (Ashish)
- 27: Presentation on 'Plastics and Alternatives' at launch of Gujarati book on plastics, Jatan, Bhumiputra and Yagna (Ashish)
- 30: Presentation on 'Ecoswaraj' to University of Petroleum and Energy Studies (Ashish)
- 31: Presentation on 'Human Rights and Rights of Nature' to Global Youth Biodiversity Network (Shrishtee, Ashish)

PART D: LIST OF KALPAVRIKSH MEMBERS

1. Ajay Mahajan
2. Akshay Chettri
3. Anchal Sondhi
4. Anuradha Arjunwadkar
5. Arpita Lulla
6. Ashish Kothari
7. Kanchi Kohli
8. Kankana Trivedi
9. Manju Menon
10. Meenakshi Kapoor
11. Meenal Tatpati
12. Milind Wani
13. Neema Pathak Broome
14. Neeraj Vagholikar
15. Pallav Das
16. Pankaj Sekhsaria
17. Pradeep Chavan
18. R. Prabhakar Rao
19. Radhika Mulay
20. Rashi Mishra
21. Roshni Kutty
22. Saili Palande-Datar
23. Sanjay Sondhi
24. Seema Bhatt
25. Shantha Bhushan
26. Sharmila Deo
27. Shiba Desor
28. Shrishtee Bajpai
29. Shruti Ajit
30. Sneha Gutgutia
31. Subhash Dolas
32. Sujatha Padmanabhan
33. Tanya Majmudar
34. Tejaswini Apte-Rahm
35. Vandana Singh
36. Yashodara Kundaji

PART E: LIST OF DONORS AND FUNDERS

List of Donors 2020-21

PA Update Newsletter

1. Anil Kapur
2. Tara Rachel Thomas
3. Siddhartha Anand
4. Asad Rafi Rahmani
5. Pankaj Sekhsaria
6. Govind Khalsode
7. Rowena Robinson
8. Annie James
9. Mahadevan Subramanian

Alternatives Work

1. Snow Leopard Conservancy
2. Pooja Tanna

KV General

1. Anuradha Arjunwadkar
2. Sanjeev Naik

North East Dams

1. Shantha Bhushan

List of Funders – 2020-21

1. Heinrich Boll Foundation
2. MISEREOR
3. ICCA Consortium
4. Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Trust (DMNCT)
5. Full Circle Foundation
6. KNA Foundation
7. Okland Institute
8. Paul Hamlyn Foundation
9. Sir Dorabji TATA Trust
10. Unitarain Universalist Association (Holdeen India Program)

PART F: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

KALPAVRIKSH

Statement of Assets and Liabilities As on 31st March 2021

SN	Particulars	Sch No.	(Rs) As on 31st March '21	(Rs) As on 31st March '20
A	<u>Sources of Funds</u>			
1.	Trust Fund		2,26,314	2,26,314
II.	General Fund			
	Opening balance (Administrative Fund)		32,83,377	32,57,347
	Add: Surplus for the year		1,73,704	26,030
	Closing balance		34,57,081	32,83,377
III.	Restricted Funds			
	Conditional Donations and Grants	1	72,00,988	49,70,446
	TOTAL [I + II + III + IV]		108,84,383	84,80,138
B.	<u>Application of Funds</u>			
I.	Fixed Assets	2	1,07,841	1,30,708
II.	Investments in Bank Fixed Deposits	3	13,33,293	17,65,283
	Current Assets, Loans & Advances	4	95,74,270	72,79,633
	Less: Current Liabilities & Provisions	4	1,31,021	6,95,486
III.	Net Current Assets		94,43,249	65,84,147
IV.	Notes to Accounts	5		
	TOTAL [V + VI + VII + VIII J		108,84,383	84,80,138

As per our attached report of even date

Paresh Sarda and Company
Chartered Accountants

For and on behalf of KALPAVRIKSH

FRN.:140714W



Paresh S Sarda Partner



M.N.: 143211

Pune

Date : 11-12-2021

UDIN - 21143211AAAADK6969


Member


Secretary



KALPAVRIKSH

Income & Expenditure Account
For the financial year 2020-21

SN	Particulars	For 2020-21			For 2019-20
		FCRA	Local	Total (Rs)	Total (Rs)
A.	Income				
	Sales		3,84,779.13	3,84,779.13	2,40,417
	Grants utilised	93,98,452.64	39,19,093.44	133,17,546.08	158,00,978
	Donations received		23,000.00	23,000.00	25,233
	Income from publications				5,95,044
	Other Income				
	-Interest Income		2,06,612.00	2,06,612.00	2,33,632
	-Membership Fees		17,500.00	17,500.00	22,885
	-RoyaltyPluriverse		27,922.00	27,922.00	
	-Contribution for PA Update Book				
	Total Income	93,98,453	45,78,907	139,77,359	169,18,190
B	Expenditure				
	Staff Payments and Benefits	2,59,420	6,84,236	9,43,656	8,44,730
	Professional Fees	76,35,301	32,48,050	108,83,351	73,41,714
	Rent, Rates and Taxes	3,87,025	80,399	4,67,424	1,29,026
	Communication Expenses	1,33,479	43,092	1,76,571	15,86,714
	Printing and Stationary	2,80,707	3,48,786	6,29,493	11,79,588
	Electricity expenses	8,160	-	8,160	2,309
	Travelling and conveyance expenses	3,65,968	1,20,458	4,86,426	45,09,111
	Remuneration to Auditors	43,956	-	43,956	59,000
	Other Expenses	42,301	71,751	1,14,051	11,82,680
	Repairs and Maintenance	160	25,040	25,200	23,780
	Depreciation for the year	16,318	9,049	25,367	33,507
	Total Expenditure	91,72,795	46,30,861	138,03,655	168,92,159
C	Surplus / (Deficit) (A - B)	2,25,658	(51,954)	1,73,704	26,030

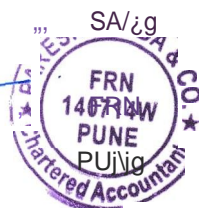
As per our attached report of even date

For Paresh Sarda and Company

Chartered Accountants

For&on behalf of **KALPAVRIKSH**

FRN.:140714W

PareshSSarda
Partner
M.N.: 143211
Pune
Date : 11-12-2021
UDIN - 21143211AAAADK6969



Neema pathal

Secretary

140714 W

