

2022-2023



KALPAVRIKSH
Environmental Action Group

Kalpavriksh Annual Report



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Philosophy	4
Governance	5
Functioning	5
Annual General Body Meeting	5
Committee for Prevention of Sexual Harassment	6
PART A: PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES/CAMPAIGNS	6
A. Environment Education	6
A.1 Children's Books	6
A.1a Development	7
A.1b Reprints	7
A.1c Awards and Recognition	7
A.1d Marketing, Promotions and Distribution	7
Book Reviews and Media Outreach:	7
A.1e Regional Language Translations	9
B. Conservation and Livelihoods	9
B.1 Community Conserved Areas	10
B.1a Outreach and Information Exchange on CCAs	10
B.1b Strengthening the CCA Network in the Region	11
B.1c CCA Web Portal	11
B.1d On-Ground Support to CCAs	11
B.2 Protected Area Governance	11
B.2a Engagement with Laws and Policies on Protected Areas	12
B.2b Mapping of Conflicts in Protected Areas	12
B.2c Legal Interventions and On-ground Investigations	12
B.3 Bhimashankar Conservation and Livelihoods Programme	14
B.3a Capacity Building	14
B.3b Democratizing Conservation Governance in India	21
B.3c Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Development	23
B.4 Protected Area Update Newsletters	24
B.4a Protected Area Update	24
B.4b Maharashtra Protected Area Update (Marathi)	25
C. Alternatives	25
C1. Youth Confluences for Ecological Sustainability	25
C. 2 Documentation and Outreach in Democratic Conservation Governance and Socio- ecological Transformation	27
5. पेड़ों के साथ पौष्टिक अनाजों की खेती	29



6. देसी सब्जियोंका जैविक बाजार	30
9. Carbon commodification in the Peruvian Amazon: The Kichwa People's Struggle Against Territorial and Climate Destruction.	31
Stories by Media Fellow	33
D. Inter Thematic Project	44
PART B: PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS	46
A. Kalpavriksh Publications and Outputs	46
A.1 Published Books and Reports	46
A.2 Letters and Petitions	46
A.3 Audiovisual Outputs	46
B. Other Publications	47
B.1 Articles	47
PART C: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS	48
PART D: LIST OF KALPAVRIKSH MEMBERS	53
PART E: LIST OF DONORS AND FUNDERS	54
PART F: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	56

Compiled by: Shrishtee Bajpai

Cover Photos:

1. Book reading by Tanya Majmudar in Delhi at Bookaroo Litfest:
2. Jungle Owlet by Shrishtee Bajpai
3. Indigenous and other local communities worldviews sangam participants by Ashish Kothari



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. Alternatives
- D. Inter-thematic activities

Annual General Body Meeting

Governing Body (Core Group) Members

1. Neema Pathak Broome (Secretary)
2. Anuradha Arjunwadkar (Treasurer)
3. Pradeep Chavan
4. Akshay Chettri



5. Milind Wani
6. Tanya Majmudar
7. Meenal Tatpati
8. Shrishtee Bajpai
9. Sharmila Deo

Auditor

Paresh Sarda, CA, 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

Tanya Majmudar (Presiding officer), Vasudha Varadarajan, Prajakta Kulkarni, and Milind Wani



PART A: PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES/CAMPAIGNS

A. Environment Education

A.1 Children's Books

Coordinators	Sujatha Padmanabhan and Tanya Majmudar
Support Team	Tejaswini Apte-Rahm, Yashodara Kundaji, Neeraj Vaghlikar
Year of Commencement	May 2022
Year of Completion	April 2023
Total Funds Sanctioned	Rs. 7,09,500 (DMNCT) Rs. 3,01,554 (KV)
Funding Agency	Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Trust Kalpavriksh

A.1a Development

The following new books were developed in this period and will be published soon:

1. *The Miracle on Kachhua Beach*: by Nandita da Cunha and illustrated by Priya Kuriyan
2. *The Spring of Life*: by Lavany Karthik and illustrated by Canato Jimo
3. *Why Are You So Colourful?*: written and illustrated by Shruti Hemani

A.1b Reprints

The following children's titles were reprinted during this period:

1. *The Poop Book!*
2. *People and Wildlife*
3. *Critters Around Our Homes*
4. *The Miracle on Sunderbaag Street*

A.1c Awards and Recognition

The following awards were won/recognition conferred:



1. Rajiv Eipe won the Mehlii Gobhai Award for the Best Work in Children's Book Illustration for *Chitty – A Dog And Her Forest Farm*.
2. *The Monster who could not Climb a Tree* was shortlisted for both Early Readers and Illustrations categories for the Binod Kanoria awards.
3. *Chitty – A Dog And Her Forest Farm* and *Pedru and The Big Boom* were part of The Parag Honor List 2023.
4. Kalpavriksh won the Special Jury Award at the FICCI Publishing Awards for The Miracle on Sunderbaag Street
5. *Chitty: A Dog and Her Forest Farm* was selected for Best Illustrations in “Top South Asian Children’s Books Published in 2022” by Tokabox, USA.

A.1d Marketing, Promotions and Distribution

Book Reviews and Media Outreach:

1. Our book publication work featured in Samuhik Pahal (June 2022 Vol 2 Issue 09) published by Wipro Foundation.
2. [Review](#) of The Monster Who Could Not Climb A Tree by writer Rati Girish
3. [Review](#) of Chitty-A Dog and Her Forest Farm in Sustainability Next
4. [Review](#) of People and Wildlife in Sustainability Next
5. [Review](#) of A New Home for Ajiri by House Full of Books
6. Review of The Miracle on Sunderbaag Street in “The Curious Owl” (Oct 7th -13th), Interview by Pearl Sharma, Class 5.
7. [Review](#) of The Poop Book! By author Mallika Ravikumar
8. [Interview](#) of Rajiv Eipe talking about *Chitty: A Dog and Her Forest Farm* was published in First Post.
9. [Interview](#) of Sujatha Padmanabhan and Tanya Majmudar on Early Childhood and National Education Policy was published in All About Book Publishing.
10. An [Instagram handle](#) dedicated to our children’s publications was created

Online webinars on our work:

1. Environmental Education: Practices, Developments and Debates organised by Wipro Foundation on July 26th 22 (Sujatha Padmanabhan was a panelist)
2. Second edition of Azim Premji University's Nature Writing for Children course (Sujatha Padmanabhan was an invitee to interact with the participants on 19th March 23)
3. Transformative Learning: Dialogue on alternative education spaces and their pedagogies organised by Vikalp Sangam, Vikalp Varta, NAPM and Grounded Voices on 22nd Sep ‘22 (Tanya Majmudar was a speaker)
4. Games and Nature Education organised by Early Bird on 24th Sep ‘22 (Sujatha Padmanabhan was a speaker)

Book events:



1. Summer Reading Olympiad with Tanya Majmudar with GetLit using *The Monster who could not climb a tree* on June 11 2022 (online)
2. Meet the Author session with Sujatha Padmanabhan with GetLit using *The Poop Book* on Aug 27th 2022 (online)
3. Author's session with Nandita da Cunha at Amrit Vidyalala (Gujarat) using *The Miracle on Sunderbaag Street* on 27th Aug (online)
4. *Ghost of the Mountains* by Sujatha Padmanabhan with Bee Bookspace's book club members on October 22nd 2022 (online)
5. Meet the Author session with Sujatha Padmanabhan with GetLit using *The Poop Book* on Nov 28th 2022, Bombay Scottish School (online)
6. Meet the Author session with Tanya Majmudar with GetLitt using *The Monster who could not climb a tree* on Nov 28th 2022, Bombay Scottish School (online)
7. Reading Olympiad session with Nandita da Cunha with GetLitt using *Pedru and the Big Boom* on Dec 3rd 2022 (online)
8. Reading Olympiad session with Getlitt by Serow and Rajiv Eipe using *Chitty: A Dog and Her Forest Farm* on 14th January (online)
9. [Book session](#) on *A New Home for Ajiri* by Vaishali at The Story Station in Pune.
10. Book session by Nandita da Cunha on *The Miracle on Sunderbaag Street* at the Oberoi International School, Mumbai

Children's Literature Festivals:

1. Neev Literature Festival: *The Miracle on Sunderbaag Street* by Nandita da Cunha on 25th Sept 2022
2. Bookaroo, Vadodara: *A New Home for Ajiri* by Sandeep Virmani on 19th Nov 2022; *Travelling Seeds* by Lavanya Karthik on 20th Nov 2022; *The Miracle on Sunderbaag Street* by Nandita da Cunha on 20th Nov 2022; *Pedru and The Big Boom* by Nandita da Cunha on 20th Nov 2022
3. Bookaroo, Delhi: *The Monster who could not climb a tree* by Tanya Majumdar on Nov 26th 2022
4. Peekabook Litfest, JML School, Mumbai: *Pedru and The Big Boom* by Nandita da Cunha on Dec 22nd 2022
5. DLRC litfest, DriveChange Learning & Resource Centre, Pune: A stall of Kalpavriksh books was set up at the event on 14th Feb '23
6. The Storytelling and Literature Festival at CSMVS Children's Museum, Mumbai: *The Miracle on Sunderbaag Street* by Nandita da Cunha in Jan '23

Digital Distribution

1. Added 4 of our titles to the Getlitt reading app during this period

A.1e Regional Language Translations

1. Three of our books were published in Hindi by Eklavya (*People & Wildlife; Critters Around Our Homes; Saving The Dalai Lama's Cranes*) in June 22.



2. MoUs have been signed with the Education Council for Tibetans in Exile Department of Education, CTA, for Tibetan translations of *Circle of Life* and *A New Home for Ajiri*

B. Conservation and Livelihoods

Program Coordinator	Neema Pathak Broome
Others Involved	Milind Wani, Pankaj Sekhsaria, Meenal Tatpati, Pradeep Chavan, Tanya Majmudar, Subhash Dolas, Akshay Chhetri, Rudrath Avinashi, Parvata Wanghare
Total Funds Sanctioned	Paul Hamlyn - Rs. 17,43,500 Global Green Grants - Rs. 11,33,580 Holdeen - NIL Duleep Matthai - Rs. 16,53,300 Misereor - Rs. 35,32,394 Terre de Hommes - Rs. 10,31,454
Funding Agencies	Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Trust, Global Green Grants, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Holdeen, Misereor, Terre de Hommes, Individual Donations

B.1 Community Conserved Areas

Team	Neema Pathak Broome, Tanya Majmudar, Rudrath Avinashi
Project Duration	ongoing
Total Funds Sanctioned	
Funding Agency	Global Green Grants Paul Hamlyn Foundation Holdeen

B.1a Outreach and Information Exchange on CCAs

- Kalpavriksh co-organised a side event at the 2nd Asia Parks Congress in Sabah, Malaysia in May 2022 on documentation of Community Conserved Areas -



Methodologies and Online Portals. The event was in collaboration with the Working Group on ICCAs, Indonesia. Kalpavriksh also supported the participation of four community members at the Congress, who shared how their cultural values and lifestyles promote conservation in their ancestral land. The delegates also participated in the drafting of the Api Api Declaration that “stressed a rights-based approach to conservation, and the visibility and full, effective, and meaningful participation of indigenous peoples in policy-making arenas that have the potential to impact their collective and individual rights, lands, territories, and resources. The Api-Api declaration was consolidated into the Congress’ final declaration, known as the Kota Kinabalu Declaration.”

- Kalpavriksh co-organised a 2 day Northeast level workshop on CCAs, discussing the challenges, diversity and solutions to strengthen CCAs in to the northeast
- In November 2022, Kalpavriksh along with other regional coordinators co-organised the second workshop on the Global Initiative on Pastoralist Territories of Life which was held virtually over three days. This was a follow-up of the first workshop held in 2021 as well as the UN General Assembly Resolution that stated the year 2026 will be declared as the International Year for Rangeland and Pastoralists. More details could be found here:
<https://www.iccaconsortium.org/tag/global-initiative-on-pastoralists-territories-of-life/>

B.1b Strengthening the CCA Network in the Region

- Kalpavriksh organised a meeting in Delhi in April 2022 to strategize on the strengthening of the national-level chapter (India) of the ICCA Consortium. There were about 20 participants from different organisations and communities engaged in conservation. An action plan and sub-committees were formed.

B.1c CCA Web Portal

- The web portal on Community Conserved Areas was officially launched in a public virtual event in the presence of former chairperson of National Biodiversity Authority, Dr. Vinod Mathur, on 27th August. [This](#) is a recording of the event and this is an [article](#) also about the event.
- 245+ CCAs are currently documented on the portal.
- An advisory board for the portal was constituted, comprising of members engaged with CCAs.
- Presentations on the portal were made at the Asia Parks Congress in Malaysia, National Working Group Meeting in Delhi and North-East level meeting on CCAs in Shillong.
- An Instagram handle was started for the portal: '[communityconservedareas](#)'.



B.1d On-Ground Support to CCAs

- Self-strengthening fellowship program
 - Secured funds to continue on ground fellowship support for self strengthening of 3 CCAs in Uttarakhand and Maharashtra.
- Local Consultations
 - Co-organised a Consultation on Amur falcon conservation in North East India

B.2 Protected Area Governance

Team	Neema P. Broome, Meenal Tatpati, Akshay Chettri
Project Duration	ongoing
Total Funds Sanctioned	
Funding Agency	Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Global Green Grants

B.2a Engagement with Laws and Policies on Protected Areas

- The team continues to track changes in laws and policies on parks and people issues looking at policy legislations as well as implementation on ground.
- Updating a database on Protected Areas on declaration and expansion of Protected Areas, displacement of communities through relocations and evictions and the implementation status of Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act (FRA) 2006, in Protected Areas.
- Tracking government documents such as notifications, circulars, meeting minutes etc on issues around Protected Areas and FRA.
- Presented (virtually) in the 2nd Asia Parks Congress, Malaysia on the status of Protected Area Governance in India.
- Co-organized a [consultation](#) with KRPAVIS on Convention on Biological Diversity Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework & Domestic Implications, in Alwar, Rajasthan on June 24-26, 2022.
- Submitted [joint comments](#) with the Criminal Justice and Police Accountability Project, on the proposed amendments to the Indian Forest Act, 1927.
- Submitted [comments](#) on the Forest Conservation Act Amendment Rules, 2022
- The team continues to track developments on the implementation status of Critical Wildlife Habitats in Maharashtra.
- The team had collaborated with All India Forum for forest movements in 2019 on documenting struggles of communities in Protected Areas in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. The report was [published](#) in March 2022.



B.2b Mapping of Conflicts in Protected Areas

- Due to technical issues, the team has not been able to update the Environmental Justice Atlas Map. However, the team continues to track conflicts arising out Protected Area expansion conservation induced displacement, criminalization of communities in Protected Areas. The team is currently working on a blog-site that will allow for outreach of collected data and analysis of the same.
- The team continues to provide need-based support on collected data to community members, researchers, civil society organizations and other stakeholders as and when required.

B.2c Legal Interventions and On-ground Investigations

- Uttarakhand Landscape Research and Advocacy:
 - The team visited the Van Gujjar Living lightly festival organized by Van Gujjar Yuva Tribal Sangathan and Centre for Pastoralism, in Rishikesh in April 2022.
 - The team has been continuing its collaboration with the Van Gujjar Tribal Yuva Sangathan towards self-strengthening processes undertaken by the Sangathan, on issues of biodiversity conservation, reviving traditional governance systems of the community, livelihood generation, documenting their cultural practices and traditions, their rights on their forests, gender and youth empowerment.
 - The team was able to collect several official documents that have been shared with local organizations and community members which have been used for regional and national level advocacy.
 - Created a historical timeline on the administration and management of Corbett Tiger Reserve and subsequent displacements, and shared with the Sangathan for advocacy on the rights of Van Gujjars within the Tiger Reserve.
 - The team visited Rajaji Tiger Reserve, Rishikesh, in March 2023. The 10 day visit included meeting with Sangathan members to review past engagement of self-strengthening of community members, understanding the traditional governance systems of the Van Gujjars, field works to Gaindi Khatta, Haridwar Forest Division, to meet with Van Gujjars who were relocated from Sonanadi Wildlife Sanctuary, Jhil Mil Jhil Conservation Reserve, a biodiversity conservation workshop where the Van Gujjar youth shared their documentation processes, meeting with representatives of Holdeen Foundation for funding possibilities. Three outputs are currently in process and will be published soon.



- Kumbhalgarh Landscape Research and Advocacy:
 - The team visited Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary in September 2022. The field work included travel to 7-8 villages, to discuss the restrictions imposed on communities due to the proposed tiger reserve, cases of threats on the Raika communities by the Forest Department, proposed displacements due to the tiger reserve, and the implementation status of the Forest Rights Act, and ways in which on-ground resistance can be garnered to oppose the Tiger Reserve proposal.
 - The team also visited the Jawai Bandh Conservation Reserve, to understand the degree of participation of communities in conservation of the Reserve, current management status, issues faced by the local communities due the restrictions imposed subsequent to the declaration of the area as a Conservation Reserve.

B.3 Bhimashankar Conservation and Livelihoods Programme

Project Coordinator	Pradeep Chavan
Team	Subhash Dolas, Parvata Wanghare, Suvarna Bhomale
Others involved	Neema Pathak Broome, Milind Wani
Project Duration	2008 - ongoing
Total Funds Sanctioned	Part of Misereor funds reported above
Funding Agency	Misereor

B.3a Capacity Building

1. With the help of National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) department of Rajgurunagar Panchayat Samittee (block Panchayat), we organized a workshop on the women SHG's role in the local microfinance and in local livelihoods generation on 4th March 2022.
2. Conducted a 3 days skill training programme for women of Bhivegaon, Yelavali, Bhorgiri, Bhomale (U) and Bhomale (L) villages on woolen work on 5th to 7th June 2022 at Bhomale (Lower) village.



3. With the financial support from Paul Hamlyn Foundation (PHF), we organized a follow up training workshop for Bhimashankar team members on National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) on 30th – 31st July 2022.
4. Kalpavriksh jointly with Kisan Sabha, organized a Workshop on the “Bhimashankar CWH process and way ahead” for Kisan Sabha and Kalpavriksh team members and volunteers on 6th August 2022.
5. With PHF support, jointly with the SHGs of Bhorgiri village and S. M. Supe Memorial Foundation, we organized a Wild Vegetable festival at Koteswar temple, Bhorgiri on 11th September 2022.
6. We conducted a small training for the women SHG members of Kharpud and Mhasewadi village on FRA and NREGA on 14th Jan 2023 at Kharpud.
7. With Misereor support, jointly with the SHGs of Bhomale (U), we organized a training workshop for women on Gram Sangh and NREGA on 24th Feb 2023 at Bhomale (U).
8. Helping Pabhe and Khopewadi villages for the better implementation of FRA and NREGA as and when required. We are continuing to help SDLC Rajgurnagar regarding the FRA and issues have come up regarding the various FRA claims. Mr. Khirsagar, in-charge of FRA, from Sub Divisional Office, Rajgurnagar is constantly in touch with us and seeking help regarding FRA as and when required.
9. We are constantly following up with SDLC and DLC regarding the CFR claims of the remaining 5 villages. SDLC illegally sent these claims to the forest department for their recommendations and forwarded these claims to the District Collector office accepting the recommendations of forest department to not to pass these claims. We sent letters against this unlawful process to the District Collector, and Project Officer, ITDP and urged them to grant these CFRs. But in spite of all that, the DLC rejected these claims. We are now in the process of appealing to the State Level Monitoring Committee, Maharashtra Scheduled Tribe Commission and National Commission for Scheduled Tribe.
10. Forest department of Maharashtra had initiated the process of declaring Critical Wildlife Habitats (CWH) in Bhimashankar wildlife sanctuary, Pune, Maharashtra in July 2022. As a part of this process, the Expert Committee had been established. We visited one of the Expert Committee members and explained to her about the ground realities vis-à-vis implementation of FRA on ground. We also urged her to fasten the process of recognizing and vesting the CFR to all villages and then start the CWH process if there will be some serious problems with regards to the forest and wildlife. She was also convinced about this and suggested we take Gram Sabha resolutions from all concerned Villages and submit them to her. On the other side we conducted



several meetings and dialogues with concerned villagers and with NGO representatives to decide a next strategy and action plan against this unlawful process of declaring Critical Wildlife Habitat. On this regards, to have more awareness and clarity of the CWH process, Kalpavriksh, jointly with Kisan Sabha, organized a Workshop on the “Bhimashankar CWH process and way ahead” for Kisan Sabha and Kalpavriksh team members and volunteers on 6th August 2022. In this meeting it was decided to take all Gram Sabha resolutions to withdraw this process until all the Forest rights recognition and granting processes are taken place.

11. On 24th September 2022, the Expert Committee organized an open consultation with all villages inside the Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary on declaring CWH. This consultation was organized at Bhimashankar with almost 1000 local villagers and NGO representatives. We all put our views in front of the committee and told them to withdraw this unlawful process. We all, firmly demanded to first finish the process of recognizing and vesting CFRs to all villages, which is mandatory before starting CWH process, and then start the process of CWH if it is being found out that the presence or exercising the forest rights of local villagers are affecting the existence of any wildlife or its habitat. The Expert Committee was also convinced by this and promised to forward these recommendations to the concerned Government.
12. On 15th September 2022, Mrs. Renuka Sinh, State Minister Tribal Affairs, Government of India, visited Bhimashankar. We, Kalpavriksh, made our submissions to her on behalf of the local communities to withdraw the current unlawful process of declaring CWH and fasten the entire process of FRA recognitions and granting forest rights inside and outside the Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary.
13. Meanwhile, on 27th January 2023, a Research and Evaluation Committee formed by the National Commission on Scheduled Tribe to research and evaluate the implementation of FRA and PESA visited our project villages to review the issues comprising the processes of FRA in Rajgurnagar block. We facilitated and conducted 2 meetings in Yelavali and Bhivegaon villages and raised the issues we faced in implementation of FRA on ground. The committee also visited the Sub Divisional office and District Collector office and raised concerns regarding the unlawful processes they conducted while recognizing and vesting the Forest rights.
14. We are helping a Panvel (Dist: Raigad) based small village of Katkaries (one of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) of Maharashtra) called Ove (Gholwadi), in the process of drafting their CFR management plans. We have conducted several visits, forest walks, village meetings and drafted a management plan with the consultations with the local Gram Sabha. The management plan of Ove (Gholwadi) has been submitted to the concerned government departments.



15. We are also now helping ITDP in the process of awareness and drafting the CFR management plans. We are also helping Kisan Sabha from Ambegaon taluka of Pune in FRA implementation as and when required.
16. We also helped some individuals from nearby villages like Pabhe, Nigdale and Undekhadak in claiming individual forest rights.
17. We have facilitated the process of forming Community Forest Resource Management Committees (CFRs) in Bhomale (U) and Kharpud Village and the same is conveyed to the SDLC. Two villages, Kharpud and Bhomale (U), got their CFR titles in Jan 2020 for which we, along with local key persons, have been constantly dialoguing with concerned government agencies to start the process of drafting and implementation of the CFR management plans. After the long follow ups with Mr. Balwant Gaikwad, Project Officer, ITDP, Ghodegaon, we have recently succeeded in having positive dialogues and local people's representations on the Block Level Convergence Committee of Rajgurnagar Block. One of our Bhimashankar team members Mrs. Suvarna Bhomale from Bhomale (U) village and ex-vice-Gram Panchayat head Mr. Balu Madage from Kharpud village were appointed as Gram Sabha representatives on Rajgurunagar block level Convergence Committee set up for the convergence of all government as well as non-governmental schemes and programs in the CFR villages for the sustainable development of the CFRs and villages. Mr. Pradeep Chavan, coordinator of the Bhimashankar program, (on behalf of Kalpavriksh) is also appointed as the NGO representative on the same committee.
18. Mr. Balwant Gaikwad conducted two meetings of Ambegaon block and Rajgurunagar block convergence committees to start the processes of forming CFRMCs in all CFR titled villages and also to start the process of drafting CFR management plans. In these meetings ITDP invited Mr. Pradeep Chavan from KV to give a talk on formation of CFRMC and drafting the management plans on 19th Jan and 15th Feb respectively. We also requested him to conduct training of the CFRMCs to draft and implement the management plans for the forest and village developments. As per his request we started the process of drafting the management plans of Bhomale (U) and Kharpud villages on the pilot basis. These drafts will be ready in the second week of March and will be submitted to the ITDP soon after.
19. We have been facilitating the process of formation of the Women Gram Sangh (group of women SHGs village wise) under the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) of the Maharashtra state government. We are taking constant follow ups with concerned government officers and Block Development Officer (BDO) of Rajgurunagar Panchayat Samittee to sanction necessary funds.
20. We are working on linking the federation and SHGs with the existing Government schemes and programs like National Rural Livelihoods mission (NRLM), Agriculture



Technology Management Agency (ATMA), National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) etc. to create local resources based livelihoods options.

21. We have succeeded in organizing Women Gram Sabhas in Bhorgiri, Bhomale and Kharpud villages on 26th Jan 2023.
22. Some youth from Kharpud and Mhasewadi villages are using the Right to Information Act (RTI) to dig out the information regarding the misuse of local funds of Gram-Panchayat. Recently, a group of these youths, who are in contact with Kalpavriksh regularly, conquered the Gram Panchayat elections in majority. The Opposition, who were the ruling party for the last five years, lost all their seats. The leader of this youth group Mr. Tanaji Bhokte, who is a big admirer of Kalpavriksh's work and philosophy, has been elected as Sarpanch (head of the Gram Panchayat) amongst the people. He gave his success credit to Kalpavriksh as according to him Kalpavriksh's people like Mr. Pradeep Chavan and Mr. Subhash Dolas shaped his ideology and career as a social worker.
23. We formed a self-help group of katkari youths of Bhomale (L) village. These youths are involved in honey harvesting.
24. During the reporting period, we continued to conduct several formal and informal discussions with local farmers on the use of local seeds for sowing and their nutritional and health benefits. During these discussions we also reiterated the importance of use of Natural Farming Techniques suggested by Subhash Palekarji.
25. We also helped Agriculture department to implement "Padkai Scheme" for new agriculture land development in Kharpud and Mhasewadi villages, in which we have been succeeded in implementing 26 "Padkai Schemes" for levelling and creating new land for agriculture purpose.
26. With the help of Maria, an intern, we conducted a mapping exercise of knowledge of women about their traditional ways of agriculture and kitchen garden practices in July 2022. (Please see annex I)
27. We established a small seed bank of local varieties of crops and wild vegetables at Bhomale Lower village. This bank is managed by one of the SHGs of Bhomale (L). In the monsoon reporting period, we distributed the local varieties of seeds from this seed bank to more than 60 women for their kitchen gardens.
28. We also conducted an exposure visit of our team members to the Sahyadri School's seed bank and farms along with kitchen gardens developed by women SHGs at Kanhewadi village on 4th Jan 2023.



29. Our two team members visited the Wild vegetable festival on 28th August 2022 organized by one of the project villages of the Vayam organization in Jawhar Taluka of Thane District.
30. On 11th September 2023, we, jointly organized a Wild Vegetable Festival at Bhorgiri along with SHGs of Bhorgiri, S. M. Supe Memorial foundation, Pune; Rajgurunagar block Agriculture Department and ATMA. This festival was visited by more than 500 people including locals and tourists. This festival was started with the procession of Wild vegetables along with traditional Bhalari folk music and songs. Please follow the links to see the video documentaries:
 - a. <https://youtu.be/N6mKSL5bxvc>
 - b. <https://youtu.be/8kEddXOgRqg>
 - c. <https://youtu.be/6qCnuMatxnM>
31. We also collected Wild vegetable seeds in this season and tried making a wild vegetable nursery at Yelavali village. We sowed some seeds in nursery bags but it did not work for some reasons.
32. We are working on the bio-diversity register of Yelavali village. Subhash, our team member, is working with the youth of Yelavali for documenting the Flora and Fauna of Yealvali CFR.
33. We are facilitating the implementation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA). We have facilitated several meetings with Farmers from Kharpud, Bhomale (U) and Bhivegaon to explore the “Panand Road”(road towards water bodies and agricultural fields) under NREGA, but the process could not move forward due to various reasons. Meanwhile, we are continuously following up with the APO, NREGA, Panchayat Samitte, Rajgurunagar for the better implementation of NREGA. During March 2022, we were told to file individual applications for Soak pits in all our villages. Our team conducted house to house visits in all 7 villages to fill the application forms. We have succeeded in filing 136 soak pit application forms. We facilitated all the required actions and follow ups with concerned government offices for these soak pit work done. All soak pits have been installed successfully in all 7 villages.
34. Regarding the no actions from Gram Sevaks of all villages for implementation of NREGA, we met and gave our submissions of concerns to Mr. Ayush Prasad, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Zilla Parishad (District Panchayat), Pune. He immediately issued a letter to the Block Development Office (BDO) to look into this matter urgently. The BDO also issued a letter to Gram Sevaks to immediately start working on the implementation of NREGA and warned them to be penalized if they neglect the implementation of NREGA. After the issue of such letters, all 3 Gram



sevaks immediately contacted Mr. Subhash Dolas, our team member, did necessary paperwork to have some common work lists on the shelf of the NREGA. Now these proposals are under the Technical and Administrative sanctions.

35. We also conducted a meeting with Block Development Officer (BDO) in November 2022 and Jan 2023, to address the issues regarding no work having been put on the shelf to fulfill the need of providing employment to the local people. In spite of the lot of follow ups with concerned Government Authorities in Zilla Parishad and Panchayat Samittee, we are not able to get any concrete answer and success in implementation of NREGA on ground.
36. In Kharpud village, we had conducted house to house visits to file no 4 application form to avail employment under NREGA. Almost 40 people filed these forms. But Gram sevak told us that there are no substantial works on the NREGA shelf of the Kharpud Gram panchayt to provide employment for these people. Hence he requested us to wait and help him in making proposals for some work to be reflected on the Shelf. We tried our level best to follow on this front, but the concerned Gram Sevak did not do anything and kept us waiting. Hence we met Mr. Ayush Prasad, Chief Executive Officer, Pune Zilla Parishad (District Panchayat) and urged him to address all local level issues impacting on NREGA. He immediately wrote a letter to BDO and directed all concerned departments to address the local level issues immediately. BDO also sent letters to concerned Gram Sevaks and directed them to proactively implement NREGA on ground. By this action Kharpud Gram Sevak was angry and scolded Kalpavriksh for sending a letter to CEO, ZP.
37. Hence in the month of November 2022, we again conducted house to house visits and filled the form no 4 for demanding employment. By this action Gram Sevak lost his temper and refused to accept these forms. Hence we submitted these forms to BDO and BDO office again sent them back to the Gram Sevak with a letter saying “denying and not giving employment to people is the punishable offence under NREGA”. Meanwhile, by taking the help of some local people on his side, Gram Sevak created some local disputes and started blaming Kalpavriksh for misleading people about NREGA. Meantime Kharpud village also was having their Gram Panchayat elections hence the local environment get polluted due to the different political party groups. Hence we decided to slow down our activities.
38. We also helped Kharpud, Bhomale and Bhorgiri Gram Panchayat to make their Labor budget for the year of 2023-24 under the NREGA.
39. We requested Mrs. Sneha Deo, BDO and NREGA in charge of Pune ZP to conduct a visit to Kharpud village. She agreed and visited Kharpud on 4th January 2023 and had discussions with local people regarding the issues impacting on the local level NREGA implementation.



40. Mr. Subhash Dolas and Mr. Sunil Wagh completed the thorough process of Geo tagging of Soak pits of Bhorgiri and Bhomale Gram panchayats and are helping both Gram Sevaks in NREGA related work.
41. We have three Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in Maharashtra namely Kolam, Madia and Katkari. We have some Katkari families in Bhomale, Bhorgiri and Kharpud villages. These people are always migrating to earn their bread and butter. Hence they do not have necessary government records, documents and certificates like Aadhar card, ration card, pan card, caste certificates etc. Hence we have planned to organize a government camp for these people. We met Project officer (PO), head of the Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) office, Ghodegaon and discussed the idea with him in detail. He liked the idea and requested us to meet Tahasildar (head of the Block administration department) to go ahead. We have several meetings with Tahasildar, PO and several officers from concerned departments to organize this camp. All necessary formalities have been done and camp will be organized soon.
42. We are working on the biodiversity register of Yealvali village. Mr. Subhash Dolas, our team member, is working with the youth of Yelavali for documenting the Flora and Fauna of Yealvali CFR.
43. As stated in the 1st year report we were trying to follow up with the ITDP office and Tahsildar office to organize a Aadhar, Caste Certificate and other government records camp for Katkari tribal people (one of the PVTGs). This camp was organized on 20th June 2023.
44. Subhash, our one of the team members, is constantly following up with the Public Work Department (PWD) and Forest department for new Road construction in Yelavali village. To solve the issues arising during this road construction, he is also constantly conducting various meetings with different government offices, contractors, Yelavali and Bhorgiri villagers, who's land has been acquired for this road.
45. During the monsoon, a lot of cattle died due to heavy rains. Subhash quickly called concerned government officers and facilitated the necessary investigations and panchanama's for a week. Due to this local people are able to get compensation.

B.3b Democratizing Conservation Governance in India

Coordinators	Neema Pathak
Team	Pradeep Chavan, Subhash Dolas, Manda Kathe, Parvata Wanghare,



Advisory and Support Team	Neema Pathak and Milind Wani
Year of Commencement	2020
Year of Completion	Ongoing
Total Funds Sanctioned for the year	3,85,480 (for Bhimashankar) (October 2022 – September 2023)
Funding Agency	Paul Hamlyn Foundation

1. We conducted a small training for the women SHG members of *Kharpud* and *Mhasewadi* village on FRA and NREGA on 14th Jan 2023 at *Kharpud*.
2. Jointly with the SHGs of *Bhomale* (U), we organized a training workshop for women on *Gram Sangh* and NREGA on 24th Feb 2023 at *Bhomale* (U).
3. We are working on to link the women federation (consisting of SHGs of 6 project villages) and SHGs with the existing Government schemes and programs like National Rural Livelihoods mission (NRLM), Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA), National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) etc. to create local resources based livelihoods options.
4. We helped Agriculture department to implement “*Padkai Scheme*” for new agriculture land development in *Kharpud* and *Mhasewadi* villages, in which we have been succeeded in implementing 26 “*Padkai Schemes*” for levelling and creating new land for agriculture purpose.
5. Helping *Pabhe* and *Khopewadi* villages for the better implementation of FRA and NREGA as and when required. We are continuing to help SDLC *Rajgurnagar* regarding the FRA and issues have come up regarding the various FRA claims. Mr. *Khirsagar*, in-charge of FRA, from Sub Divisional Office, *Rajgurnagar* is constantly in touch with us and seeking help regarding FRA as and when required
6. We are facilitating the implementation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA). We have facilitated several meetings with Farmers from *Kharpud*, *Bhomale* (U) and *Bhivegaon* to explore the “*Panand Road*” (road towards water bodies and agricultural fields) under NREGA, but the process could not move forward due to various reasons. Meanwhile, we are continuously following up with the APO, NREGA, *Panchayat Sammittee*, *Rajgurnagar* for the better implementation of NREGA.
7. Regarding no actions from *Gram Sevaks* of all villages for implementation of NREGA, we met and gave our submissions of concerns to Mr. *Ayush Prasad*, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) *Zilla Parishad* (District *Panchayat*), Pune. He



immediately issued a letter to the Block Development Office (BDO) to look into this matter urgently. The BDO also issued a letter to *Gram Sevaks* to immediately start working on the implementation of NREGA and warned them to be penalized if they neglect the implementation of NREGA. After the issue of such letters, all 3 *Gram sevaks* immediately contacted Mr. *Subhash Dolas*, our team member, and did necessary paperwork to have some common work lists on the shelf of the NREGA. Now these proposals are under the Technical and Administrative sanctions.

8. We also conducted a meeting with Block Development Officer (BDO) in November 2022 and Jan 2023, to address the issues regarding no work having been put on the shelf to fulfill the need of providing employment to the local people. In spite of the lot of follow ups with concerned Government Authorities in *Zilla Parishad* and *Panchayat Samittee*, we are not able to get any concrete answer and success in implementation of NREGA on ground.
9. In *Kharpud* village, we had conducted house to house visits to file no 4 application form to avail employment under NREGA. Almost 40 people filed these forms. But *Gram sevak* told us that there are no substantial works on the NREGA shelf of the *Kharpud Gram panchayt* to provide employment for these people. Hence he requested us to wait and help him in making proposals for some work to be reflected on the Shelf. We tried our level best to follow on this front, but the concerned *Gram Sevak* did not do anything and kept us waiting. Hence we met Mr. *Ayush Prasad*, Chief Executive Officer, *Pune Zilla Parishad* (District *Panchayat*) and urged him to address all local level issues impacting on NREGA. He immediately wrote a letter to BDO and directed all concerned departments to address the local level issues immediately. BDO also sent letters to concerned *Gram Sevaks* and directed them to proactively implement NREGA on ground. By this action *Kharpud Gram Sevak* was angry and scolded *Kalpavriksh* for sending a letter to CEO, ZP.
10. In the month of November 2022, we again conducted house to house visits and filled the form no 4 for demanding the employment. By this action *Gram Sevak* lost his temper and refused to accept these forms. Hence we submitted these forms to BDO and BDO office again sent them back to the *Gram Sevak* with letter saying “denying and not giving employment to people is the punishable offence under NREGA”. Meanwhile by taking the help of some local people of his side, *Gram Sevak* created some local disputes and started blaming *Kalpavriksh* for misguiding people about NREGA. Meantime *Kharpud* village also was having their *Gram Panchayat* elections hence the local environment got polluted due to the different political party groups. Hence we decided to slow down our activities.
11. We also helped *Kharpud*, *Bhomale* and *Bhorgiri Gram Panchayat* to make their Labor budget for the year of 2023-24 under the NREGA.
12. We requested Mrs. *Sneha Deo*, BDO and NREGA in charge of Pune ZP to conduct a visit to *Kharpud* village. She agreed and visited *Kharpud* on 4th January 2023 and had



discussions with local people regarding the issues impacting on the local level NREGA implementation.

13. *Subhash Dolas* and *Mr. Sunil Wagh* completed the thorough process of Geo tagging of Soak pits of *Bhorgiri* and *Bhomale Gram panchayts* and are helping both *Gram Sevaks* in NREGA related work.

B.3c Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Development

Coordinators	Pradeep Chavan
Team	Parvata Wanghare, Sunil Wagh, Suvarna Bhomale, Sunil Bhokte
Others Involved	Neema Pathak
Year of Commencement	2023
Year of Completion	Ongoing
Total Funds Sanctioned for the year	50,000 Euros (01 st Jan 2023 to 31 st Dec. 2024)
Funding Agency	Terre des Homes

1. Monthly meetings with youths of 7 villages on local and forest governance along with addressing livelihoods.
2. Monthly Meetings with School kids of 7 villages on Environment, traditions, child rights etc.
3. An Exposure visit was organized in February 2023 of 50 local youths from 7 villages to Hivare Bazar and Patoda village to learn and understand ways of sustainable development of the village.
4. A session on Child rights have been conducted in Kohinde Ashram School (Tribal government residential school)

B.4 Protected Area Update Newsletters

Project Coordinator	Pankaj Sekhsaria
Others Involved	Reshma Jathar



Year of Commencement	1994
Year of Completion	ongoing
Total Funds Sanctioned	INR 6,00,000
Funding Agency	Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Trust, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Individual Donations

B.4a Protected Area Update

The following issues of the PA Update newsletter were published in the financial year 2022-23:

- Production and Printing of *PA Update* Vol XXVIII No. 3, June 2022 (No. 157)
- Production and Printing of *PA Update* Vol XXVIII No. 4, August 2022 (No. 158)
- Production and Printing of *PA Update* Vol XXVIII No. 5, October 2022 (No. 159)
- Production and Printing of *PA Update* Vol XXVIII No. 6, December 2022 (No. 160)
- Production and Printing of *PA Update* Vol XXIX No. 1, February 2023 (No. 161)
- Production and Printing of *PA Update* Vol XXIX No. 2, April 2023 (No. 162)

B.4b Maharashtra Protected Area Update (Marathi)

The newsletter ***Maharashtra Sanrakshit Kshetra Vartapatra*** (Marathi) is being produced with the support from the DMNCT. The newsletter is edited by Reshma Jathar with Pankaj Sekhsaria being the Associate Editor.

Published in Marathi, it carries news and information on protected areas in Maharashtra and draws from what has appeared in the Marathi media. It is published four times a year. The first issue was published in March-April 2020.

The following issues were produced and printed in this period:

- *Maharashtra Sanrakshit Kshetra Vartapatra*, Vol. 3, No. 2, April 2022 (No. 9)
- *Maharashtra Sanrakshit Kshetra Vartapatra*, Vol. 3, No. 3, July 2022 (No. 10)
- *Maharashtra Sanrakshit Kshetra Vartapatra*, Vol. 3, No. 4, October 2022 (No. 11)
- *Maharashtra Sanrakshit Kshetra Vartapatra*, Vol. 4, No. 1, January 2023 (No. 12)



C. Alternatives

C1. Youth Confluences for Ecological Sustainability

1. Activities in / relating to India

1a. Funded Projects

Project: Youth Confluences for Ecological Sustainability
Coordinator: Sujatha Padmanabhan, Ashik Krishnan (from Traveller's University)
Support Team: Ashish Kothari, Urvi Shah
Year of Commencement: April 2012
Year of Completion: March 2023
Funds Sanctioned: Rs. 9,43,800
Funding Agency: Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Trust

This programme focuses on taking the Vikalp Sangam processes to **Youth** and to also highlight youth-led initiatives and options for livelihoods for youth that are more sustainable and just. The project, which includes a Sangam (confluence) as also documentation and outreach, is centred on youth involved in ecological work, but seen as also in its interrelation with the other spheres of transformation (economic democracy, social equity, justice and inclusion, cultural diversity, direct democracy)

Developments:

Youth Vikalp Sangam

A Youth Vikalp Sangam was held at Fireflies Ashram in Bengaluru from September 10th to 13th 2022. It was co-organised by representatives of Bhoomi College, Yugma Network, The AdivasiPost, Devalsari Society, Maati, Let India Breathe, Blue Ribbon Movement, Travellers' University, and Kalpavriksh. All the organisers are youth themselves (save one), some had participated and or helped organise earlier youth sangams. A fairly diverse group of 29 young people from different parts of the country, representing diverse areas of work within the umbrella of ecology, participated.

Sessions were held on Visioning Alternatives, sharing of journeys and perspectives from diverse experiences, inter-generational learning and dialogues, issues relating to burnout, using art for collective action, and importantly a coming together in conversations and



spontaneous dancing into the night, creating bonds and friendships between participants from diverse regions of India.

Stories

Three stories were chosen from the Vikalp Sangam website, and each was translated into two regional languages:

1) The story “Sustaining a River through Young Minds” on the work of Vayali in Kerala was translated into Malayalam and Tamil.

The link in Malayalam:

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/yuvamanassukaliloode-oru-nadiye-nilanirthunnu-in-malayalam/>

The link in Tamil:

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/ilayavarkalin-pangalippil-uyirthirukkum-aaru-in-tamil/>

2) The story “Fishing for a difference” on the work of restoring lakes and women’s empowerment in Gondia district was translated into Marathi and Hindi.

The link in Marathi:

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/paryavarana-sanvardhak-matsyapaalan-in-marathi/>

The link in Hindi:

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/machli-paalan-aar-badlaav-in-hindi/>

3) The story “Farm and Food entrepreneurship: Rebuilding Assam’s fragile economy and ecology” was translated into Bengali and Hindi.

The link in Bengali:

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/krishi-o-khadya-udoktya-assamer-bhongur-orrthoniti-ebong-poribesher-ponorgathan/>

The link in Hindi:

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/farm-and-food-entrepreneurship-rebuilding-assams-fragile-economy-and-ecology-2/>

Films

Two films were commissioned:

- 1) *Empowering Chennai’s climate-vulnerable communities*: This film is on the work that is being undertaken by a group of young naturalists led by Yuvan Aves in raising awareness on urban biodiversity in Chennai with different citizens. The film was commissioned to Aparna Ganesan. The film has gained about 1.3K views so far and has brought in a lot of praise. It can be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/fi-RpK1OGX4>
- 2) *Ripples of change – A fight for justice along the Malvan coast*: The fishing community in the coastal area of Malvan, Maharashtra faces an ever increasing threat from mechanised fishing. This not only endangers their sole means of income but also



the very survival of marine life in the seas. A journalist from the community has been working to get their voices heard and advocate for the sustainable practices of traditional fishing used in this region. The first cut of the film¹ has been received.

Book on 'Livelihoods'

A book on eco-conscious livelihoods is being prepared, as an output of the transformative journeys that 7 young individuals undertook as part of the 52 Parindey Fellowship by Travellers' University. These youths explored the livelihood areas they intend to be in the long-term, such as Agroecological Farming, Arts for Social Change, Community Work, Place-based Learning, etc. by meeting with livelihood practitioners engaged in these respective areas. The fellows learned from them and documented their stories of how they found their livelihoods through their planet-centric and community-centric approaches. The book also offers curated information that helps youth to pursue such livelihoods. It is being finalised for printing.

C. 2 Documentation and Outreach in Democratic Conservation Governance and Socio- ecological Transformation

Project Title: Documentation and Outreach in Democratic Conservation Governance and Socio-ecological Transformation
Coordinator: Milind Wani
Thematic: Alternatives
Support Team: Arnaz Khan, Radhika Mule, Sujatha Padmanabhan, Pallav Das
Others involved: Sushama Gaikwad (Library), Govind Khalsode (Admin staff), Prajakta Kulkarni (Accts staff)
Associates (External): Siddharth (Pipal Tree- Fireflies Inter-Cultural Centre Bangalore)
Year of commencement: March 2021
Year of completion: Ongoing
Total funds sanctioned: EUR 29,980.00
Funding agency: Misereor

Following activities were carried out for the period **April 2022 – March 2023**

Information Outreach:

- 1.** One issue of the English and Hindi versions of the newsletter **People in Conservation** has been produced and disseminated in September 2022. The issue is focusing on the thematic of **Good**

¹ The film was finalized in early May 2023 and can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/sQFHQXDDu70>



Life.(https://kalpavriksh.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Eng.-Vol-11_Issue-1_Final-for-web.pdf)

1. One issue of the English and Hindi versions of the newsletter **People in Conservation** is underway on the thematic of *Alternatives*.
(https://kalpavriksh.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Eng.-Vol-11_Issue-2_Final-for-Web.pdf)

Vikalp Sangam website

Six stories were published on Vikalp Sangam website. It was decided to do three stories in English and three in Hindi like in Year 1.

English Stories

1. Can wild spaces create equal learning spaces? by Yuvan Avis

This piece is on how nature-based learning (NBL) is indispensable for children's all round wellbeing and how NBL pedagogy can be an extraordinary equalizing force, in the highly inequitable space that is mainstream curriculum.

The author shares his own experiences as a nature educator.

(<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/can-wild-places-create-equal-learning-spaces/>)

2. Reimagining Cities, by Ashik Krishnan

Can we imagine a future where every city and its citizens claim a deep sense of connection with its surroundings, history, heritage, culture, knowledge systems and commons? Can we imagine a future where every individual shares a convivial and compassionate relationship with each other and the rest of nature? This article seeks to look at the various systems that can be worked out in a city space from an individual action level to a governance level to achieve the same, through some of the existing initiatives in the country.

(<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/reimagining-cities/>)

A positive development of publishing this story on the website is that Rajendra Ravi, one of Vikalp Sangam's core group members and the founder member of People's Resource Centre Delhi, approached the author of the piece to discuss the possibility of bringing out a book on urban alternatives.

Currently they plan to co-edit a book with ten chapters on different thematic focus areas of urban alternatives. The book is tentatively titled 'Livable Cities: Indian Experiences and Practices'.

3. Agnipankh Flamingo Point: Bird Watching as an Alternative Livelihood, by AkshayChettri and Vasudha Varadarajan



This story is about a community based ecotourism initiative at Bhigwan, near Pune in Maharashtra, covering the journey of Sandeep Nagare as a birdwatcher and his role in conservation and in reviving the local economy through his ‘Agnipankha Flamingo Point’ homestay.

(<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/agnipankh-flamingo-point-birdwatching-as-an-alternative-li-velihood/>)

Hindi Stories

(All by Baba Mayaram)

4. झारखंड में उम्मीदकी लाइब्रेरी

This is a short story on NGO EkJoot that runs a Library in Western Singhbhum district of Jharkhand. (<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/jharkhand-mein-ummeed-ki-library-in-hindi/>)

5. पेड़ों के साथ पौष्टिक अनाजों की खेती

A short story on Mahesh Sharma a farmer based in Anupur (MP) who does organic farming has set up a seed bank and is helping other local farmers too.

(<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/pedo-ke-saath-paushtik-anaajo-ki-kheti-in-hindi/>)

6. देसी सब्जियोंका जैविक बाजार

A short story on initiatives in terrace gardens, kitchen gardens and local food markets by Gram Sevas in Hoshangabad district.

(<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/desi-sabziyon-ka-jaivik-bazaar/>)

Radical Ecological Democracy website

Following stories were published on the RED website:

1. Ingredients for a decolonial politics – cooking up a future to delight in.

Eva Schonveld and Justin Kendrik

Article on an inspiring framework for activists, academics, civil society campaigners and radical reformers to create “alternatives to our internalized and cultural habits of domination.”

(<https://radicalecologicaldemocracy.org/ingredients-for-a-decolonial-politics-cooking-up-a-future-to-delight-in/>)

2. Against the Universal Agent of Separation: A Review of Anitra Nelson’s “Beyond Money: A Post-Capitalist Strategy”.

John Clark

A review of Anitra Nelson’s path breaking book by the prominent American thinker, John Clark.



(<https://radicalecologicaldemocracy.org/against-the-universal-agent-of-separation-a-re-view-of-anitra-nelsons-beyond-money-a-post-capitalist-strategy/>)

3. Is Italy's new vision for environmental protection a real commitment to carbon neutrality?

Mitta Stefani and Faust Corvine

Analysis of the Italian Parliament's new legislation to amend two crucial Articles in the Constitution to align the country with the rest of Western Europe's progressive vision on climate intervention.

(<https://radicalecologicaldemocracy.org/is-italys-new-vision-for-environmental-protection-a-real-commitment-to-carbon-neutrality/>)

4. "Hola Gustavo!" – A personal tribute to Gustavo Esteva

Ashish Kothari

A personal tribute to Gustavo Esteva.

(<https://radicalecologicaldemocracy.org/hola-gustavo-a-personal-tribute-to-gustavo-esteva/>)

5. Gustavo Esteva had a vision

David Barkin

A colleague and comrade recounts Gustavo Esteva's intellectual and activist contribution to societal transformation.

(<https://radicalecologicaldemocracy.org/gustavo-esteva-had-a-vision/>)

6. Development as service

Dorine van Norren

A deep reflection on traditional, indigenous paradigms providing viable alternatives to the fast-crumbling ideas and practices of modern "development".

(<https://radicalecologicaldemocracy.org/development-as-service/>)

7. "Beautiful Resistance" in Palestine: Challenging occupation by forging inner peace.

Abdulfattah Abusrour

A personal reflection on an organization laying the foundation of a peaceful "alternative" pathway to freedom and self-rule in Palestine.

(<https://radicalecologicaldemocracy.org/beautiful-resistance-in-palestine-challenging-occupation-by-forging-inner-peace/>)

8. A Sisyphean politics of desire: Camus' philosophy in the Anthropocene.

Adam Cogan



An article reimagining Camus to contest the despondency of capitalist realism, and the destruction it condones.

(<https://radicalecologicaldemocracy.org/a-sisyphean-politics-of-desire-camus-philosophy-in-the-anthropocene/>)

9. Carbon commodification in the Peruvian Amazon: The Kichwa People's Struggle Against Territorial and Climate Destruction.

Matias Pérez Ojeda del Arco

A discussion on the ongoing struggle of the Kichwa people of Peru to ensure the enjoyment of their traditional livelihoods and the continuation of their territorialities and relationalities with their forests.

(<https://radicalecologicaldemocracy.org/carbon-commodification-in-the-peruvian-amazon-the-kichwa-peoples-struggle-against-territorial-and-climate-destruction/>)

10. Five axes of transition: Imagining “alternatives” for the post-pandemic future.

Arturo Escobar

Escobar lays out a strategy – what he calls the five axes of transition – needed to come out on the other side of the pandemic with hope, and to “give impetus to our deepest yearnings for other worlds and worlds otherwise.”

(<https://radicalecologicaldemocracy.org/five-axes-of-transition-imagining-alternatives-for-the-post-pandemic-future/of>)

11. Localization: Bringing about Buen Vivir to address climate fluctuations and globalization.

Christian Stalberg

A discussion of local control in South America over the means of production and trade, and self-reliance in meeting basic needs from within a human-scale local region.

(<https://radicalecologicaldemocracy.org/localization-bringing-about-buen-vivir-to-address-climate-fluctuations-and-globalization/>)

12. “Where the mind is without fear”

Ashish Kothari

Honoring the poet Rabindranath Thakur's memory, inspired by the celebrated poem, “Where the mind is without fear”, and introducing a contemporary resistance and alternatives twist.

(<https://radicalecologicaldemocracy.org/where-the-mind-is-without-fear/>)

13. Living bio-regionally, now.

Christine Dann

A reflection on the possibility of bioregional forms of governance rooted in the biophysical realities of ecosystems, which are particular and even unique to places to



be a part of the solution to the environmental and climate crises being experienced by the world.

(<https://radicalecologicaldemocracy.org/living-bioregionally-now/>)

14. Technology and disempowerment: A call to technologists.

Aaditeshwar Seth

A discussion on the many ways in which technology could aim to overturn hegemonic and unjust social and economic structures to create an equal and just society.

(<https://radicalecologicaldemocracy.org/technology-and-disempowerment-a-call-to-technologists/>)

15. Giorgia on our minds: Exploring “alternatives” as the far right overtakes Italy.

Mitja Stefancic

A discussion on the recent failures of the Italian left and the need to revive progressive political movements by connecting them with reliable economic “alternatives” that challenge the top-down neoliberal model.

(<https://radicalecologicaldemocracy.org/giorgia-on-our-minds-exploring-alternatives-as-the-ultra-right-overtakes-italy/>)

Vikalp Sangam

A Vikalp Sangam on Spiritual responses to climate crisis and polarization was held in collaboration with Pipal Tree (Bangalore) at Fireflies Intercultural Ashram.

(<https://vikalpsangam.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/A-Vikalp-Sangam-Dialogue-on-Spirituality-in-Social-Justice-and-Well-being-18th-21st-July-2022.pdf>)

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

Project: Alternative Practices and Visions in India: Documentation, Networking, and Advocacy

Project Coordinator: Shrishtee Bajpai

Project Team: Ashish Kothari, Aanchal S, Arnaz Khan, Vasudha Vardarajan and Urvi Shah

Year of commencement: Jan 2022

Year of completion: December 2022

Funds sanctioned: Rs. 37,16,007+10,42,333 (till March 2023)

Funding agency: Heinrich Boll Stiftung, India Centre

Project Activities:



Stories by Media Fellow

As part of its ongoing attempt to document stories of alternatives in various parts of India, a media fellow, Baba Mayaram, was commissioned to write 8 stories in Hindi. They are published as:

1. जंगल और नदी कैसे बचाते हैं भारिया

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/jungle-aur-nadi-kaise-bachate-hai-bhariya-in-hindi/>

2. हर घर का फैमिली फार्मर बनाना होगा

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/har-ghar-ka-family-farmer-banana-hoga-in-hindi/>

3. आग बुझाने से जी उठा जंगल

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/aag-bujhane-se-jee-utha-jungle-in-hindi/>

4. किचन से संभव है सेहत का खयाल-

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/kitchen-se-sambhav-sehat-ka-khayal/>

5. मरुस्थल में पानी की रिश्तेदारी- अप्रकाशित, अपलोड के लिए तैयार

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/marubhoomi-mein-paani-ki-rishtedaari/>

6. सतपुड़ा का मडई मेला

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/satpuda-mein-kisani-se-juda-hai-madai-mela-in-hindi/>

7. झारखंड में शिशु माता पोषण कार्यक्रम

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/jharkhand-mein-chhote-bacchon-ke-liye-anoothi-pahal-in-hindi/>

8. लद्दाख में हिम तेंदुआ बचाने की पहल

<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/him-tendua-ko-kaise-bachate-hai-ladakh-in-hindi/>

Case Study - The Goba of Ladakh: Current Traditional Governance system

This study documents the present status of the traditional governance system of Ladakhi villages, with a focus on the *goba* (or *lambardar/nambardar*). It attempts to understand the current relevance of the system in the context of socio-cultural, economic, ecological and political transformations taking place in the region. For this, the study also looked at the interface between the *goba* and new/modern governance systems, viz. the *panchayat*, Ladakh Hill Council and UT Administration.

The study found that the *goba* system continues to be crucial in the life of villagers across Leh district of Ladakh, including in relation to the ecological and cultural landscapes in which they are located. But it also faces challenges in relation to the changes mentioned above, and has its own internal weaknesses relating to gender, caste, and age. The study makes several recommendations on how these challenges can be met, if Ladakhi society considers that continuation of the *goba* (and related *yulpa* or village assembly) system is important for its well-being.

This study is a collaboration between Pune-based civil society group Kalpavriksh, and local organisations Snow Leopard Conservancy – India Trust (SLC-IT), Nature Conservation Foundation (NCF), Ladakh Arts and Media Organisation (LAMO), and Local Futures. This report has been published with support of the Ladakh Buddhist Association.



Full report: <https://vikalpsangam.org/article/the-goba-of-ladakh-report/>

Conversation with Sonam Wangchuk, on show 'Achoe Nyingtam':

<https://youtu.be/-yo61GtqWFE>

Conversation on Indus Dispatch: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=423037559769280>

Vikalp Sangam activities

- **Vikalp Sangam Core Group online meeting, 23.4.2022**

The Vikalp Sangam Core Group mid-year meeting was held on 23 April 2022. Organisations that participated were Kalpavriksh, India And Bharat Together (IABT), Let India Breathe (LIB), Development Alternatives, Kriti Teams, Maadhyam, EQUATIONS, Ektha, Fridays for Future (FFF), Sahodya Trust, NorthEast Network (NEN), Bhoomi College, Blue Ribbon Movement, Vrikshamitra, Greenpeace, ACCORD, Non-timber Forest Produce Exchange (NTFP-EP) Social Entrepreneurship Association (SEA), Ladakh Arts and Media Organisation (LAMO), National Alliance of Peoples' Movements (NAPM), Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS).

- **Vikalp Sangam Facilitation Team Meeting, 1-2.7.2022, JE Farms, Pune**

The Vikalp Sangam Facilitation Team (VSFT) was formed out of a discussion at the Vikalp Sangam Core Group meeting held in October 2021 in Dehradun with the goal to decentralise the varied functions of the network. In July 2022, its first physical meeting was held with the aim of dialogue over the different objectives and responsibilities of the VSFT. The meeting was facilitated by Kalpavriksh and members were present from Blue Ribbon Movement, India and Bharat Together, National Alliance of People's Movement, Social Entrepreneurship Association, Timbaktu Collective, Travellers' University, Youth Alliance, and Yugma Network.

- **Vikalp Sangam Core Group Meeting, 1-3.11.2022, Timbaktu Collective, Andhra Pradesh**

The Vikalp Sangam Core group comprises about 80+ organizations, networks and initiatives. This year Core Group met at the beautiful Timbaktu Collective's campus in Chennethapalli. 45 members representing 26 organisations met for 3 days and discussed several internal governance mechanisms, Vikalp Sangam's response to political crises, plans for future sangams among others.

- **Indigenous worldviews sangam, 6-8.11.2022, Timbaktu Collective, Andhra Pradesh**

The Indigenous and Community Worldviews Vikalp Sangam (Alternatives Confluence), a gathering of Adivasi, pastoral, farmer and other communities, and civil society organizations was conducted on 6-8 November 2022. It was an attempt to highlight diverse ways of being and living and knowing of such communities across India, and to enable greater understanding and collaboration amongst them. The 30-odd participants included members of Adivasi or Indigenous communities like Warli, Mishmi, Dimas, Gond, Soliga, Chakhesang,



Oraon, Meena, and Lepcha, pastoral Maldhari and Van Gujjar communities, and Dalit women farmers from Telangana.

A detailed report from the Sangam can be accessed

online: <https://vikalpsangam.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Indigenous-and-Community-Worldviews-Vikalp-Sangam.docx-2.pdf>

- **Western Himalayan Vikalp Sangam process (WHVS)**

The WHVS process began in 2016 and since then has been co-led by the core member organizations such as Jagori Rural, Beej Bachao Andolan, Devalsari Environment Protection Committee, Himdhara, Maati, MAUSAM, Peoples' Science Institute, Shramyog, Snow-Leopard Conservancy India Trust, Titli Trust, Kalpavriksh and Himalayan Collective. Kalpavriksh for two years, supported the part-time coordination & facilitation of the process while the member organizations put together a comprehensive proposal for their joint activities under Vikalp Sangam process. The proposal is under final consideration for funding by Eicher Foundation.

South Asia Bioregionalism Working Group

This group was set up after the Democracy Vikalp Sangam in Rajasthan in 2019 and got going only in 2021 through online meetings and gatherings. The group intends to generate and strengthen the following:

- Knowledge creation and awareness of a bioregionalist approach to democratic decision-making in South Asia. Understanding and highlighting traditional/local systems of decision making and their ecological connections; revitalising democracy by re-situating ecology in individuals' lives.
- Advocacy to integrate a bioregionalist perspective into policy, governance, socio-ecological-political structures, and community thinking.
- People-to-people communication/collaborations across current political and administrative boundaries.
- Efforts at envisioning, and working towards, the dissolving or porousness of current political and administrative boundaries where they are inappropriate or violative of bioregional principles, and their replacement by bioregional governance, for example – systems constituted around river basins that cut across current nation-state boundaries, as an ultimate goal.
- Support systems for communities, movements, and groups working on the ground.

This year, the group started with a session on the first knowledge output of the group:

Mapping Bioregions:

<https://vikalpsangam.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Final-Bioregion-Report-18-August-2022.pdf>

Other reports on studies, including on marine/coastal bioregions, and hazard mapping of the Teesta Basin in north-east India, as also a process documentation report on the working group itself, are underway.



Webpages of the Working Group on Vikalp Sangam -

<https://vikalpsangam.org/south-asia-bioregionalism-working-group/> and HBS website - <https://in.boell.org/index.php/en/bioregionalism>

Its social media accounts – Twitter <https://twitter.com/bioregionalism>, Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/bioregionalism/> and YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/@southasiabioregionalismwor847>

In order to further attain the above goals, the working group intends to establish or strengthen collaboration with several existing forums, such as the Rights of Rivers South Asia process, the West Himalaya Vikalp Sangam process, the Pakistan-India People's Forum for Peace and Democracy, the People's SAARC, Community Conserved Areas in South Asia, amongst others.

Vikalp Sangam website (management and hosting)

This year one of the major focus areas of the stories on the Vikalp Sangam Website have been around revival of local traditions, food, ways of organising as a community and conservation methods across categories. Environment and Ecology as a category has seen a large share of stories followed by Livelihoods and Food and Water. Key highlights:

1. There were around 120 new stories put up with more attention given to vernacular language stories, whether originally written in those languages or translated. Total number of stories on the VS Website are around 1900.
2. The views and visitors increased from 289K and 199k in 2021 to 375K and 286K in 2022 respectively.
3. The website has acted as a repository for not just stories of alternatives but also reports of various Vikalp Sangam initiatives, projects, physical gatherings, photo and video documentation and films.
4. The Vikalp Sangam website is much improved now with better look, shareability, search function, and the back-end support. It has more visitation than before and greater engagement from CG members.
5. vikalp-sangam-list@googlegroups.com consists of nearly 775 members and various aspects of alternative initiatives are discussed on this group.
6. The monthly newsletter continues to provide featured images and hyperlinks titles of recent articles and perspectives. This is sent to members of the VS list above and to others who subscribe to the newsletter.
<https://us9.campaign-archive.com/home/?u=16f6762000d0db3e3e5190bf6&id=4bd0241c3a>
7. Facebook, Instagram and Twitter have links to articles and perspectives and case studies newly uploaded to the Vikalp Sangam website. The newsletters also appear on this wall.
8. We have put up VS statements and news reports on the website this year, at these links:
 - [Statement to Bharat Jodo Yatra](https://vikalpsangam.org/article/statement-to-bharat-jodo-yatra/) - <https://vikalpsangam.org/article/statement-to-bharat-jodo-yatra/>
 - [Press release: Urgent need to support Goba system of Ladakh, 20-21 Sept 2022](https://vikalpsangam.org/article/press-release-urgent-need-to-support-goba-system-of-ladakh-20-21-sept-2022/) - <https://vikalpsangam.org/article/press-release-urgent-need-to-support-goba-system-of-ladakh-20-21-sept-2022/>



- [Statement and Appeal on Ladakh's Constitutional Status -
https://vikalpsangam.org/article/statement-and-appeal-on-ladakhs-constitutional-status/](https://vikalpsangam.org/article/statement-and-appeal-on-ladakhs-constitutional-status/)

9. We also helped amplify statements of other groups and networks, e.g. on the Joshimath disaster:

[Joshimath Solidarity Statement – जोशीमठ के संघर्ष को समर्थन -
https://vikalpsangam.org/article/joshimath-solidarity-statement-in-hindi-and-english/](https://vikalpsangam.org/article/joshimath-solidarity-statement-in-hindi-and-english/)

Films

3 films were made on alternative initiatives, in collaboration with Srishti Films:

1. <https://vikalpsangam.org/article/homes-and-hearth-sustaining-ladakh/>

The people of Ladakh, India's northernmost territory, have been searching for sustainable alternatives to promote and maintain their unique heritage and livelihoods, well-suited to the region's cold desert and mountainous ecosystems. Community participation has been key in their attempts to conserve their traditional cultural, food, and hospitality practices, in the face of mass tourism and 'development'.

2. <https://vikalpsangam.org/article/natures-apprentice-a-gudalur-story/>

The depth of knowledge held by the forest dwellers, and innovations and initiatives by Adivasi Munnetra Sangam, Just Change and ACCORD, are helping the Adivasis of Gudalur create sustainable, dignified livelihoods and gain collective control over their commons, in the face of the modern economy.

3. <https://vikalpsangam.org/article/balika-panchayat-the-story-of-kunariya/>

The Balika Panchayat of Kunariya, Kutch, is a program led by women and girls of 10-21 years' age, to help govern the village. It aims to empower women in the active functioning of the Gram Panchayat, and in making Kunariya a model village.

Vikalp Sangam Social Media

The objectives of the VS Social Media process are to:

- enhance outreach of Vikalp Sangam and related material on alternatives, to a wider audience, including and in particular, youth;
- amplifying and centring stories from grassroots organizations and communities to further the main objectives of the Vikalp Sangam process (information exchange, inspiring others to innovate;
- cross learning and unlearning, co-creating collective visions, and building more critical mass for transformation.
- develop camaraderie with core group members, to develop a bonding and get perspectives of Dalit-Bahujan-Adivasi voices



Key activities are:

- Putting out stories, news, event-related content (relating to alternatives)
- A series of multimedia pieces, using tools like films, videos featuring voices of core members, memes, stories and webinars
- Amplifying statements and stories, case studies and perspectives from Vikalp Sangam website repository
- Webinars in collab with NAPM - Grounded Voices (Conducted 5 sessions between March and Sep 2022)
- Online campaigns #WhereIsOurAzadi and #StopNicobarDestruction
- Collaborative posts with different organizations on Instagram
- Twitter spaces and Insta live on different topics

There are some visible impacts, including: the Instagram account has crossed 2000 followers, Twitter has reached 1200 followers, Facebook and LinkedIn is doing well. YouTube channels are encouraging (Live telecast of Webinars). We have made new connections through our social media, which helped themes like Bioregionalism at a broader level.

We are using Instagram collaborator posts as an opportunity to connect with CG and outside CG organisations. We did a collaboration with Grounded Imaginaries, Travellers University (CG member), and There is no Earth B. We also try to update social media from the ground by live tweeting and IG live. Making sure to post content on important National and International Days. We also try to post content bilingually, Hindi and English.

Instagram Live:

1. 1. Transportation: What are the alternatives (7th June, 2022)
2. 2. The Indian Antarctic Bill (3rd Aug, 2022)
3. 3. The Wildlife Protection (Amendment) Bill (9th Aug, 2022)

Twitter Space:

1. Only One Earth: What does it mean for Today's Youth? (6th June, 2022)

Our links:

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

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

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

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/vikalpsangam/>

You Tube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_RBOMRxjsbxIz-hAahFiJw

C4. Other Activities (not project-funded through Kalpavriksh)

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



Vikalp Sutra emerged from Vikalp Sangam in June 2020, in discussions initiated by KV members, and aims at linking other networks and collectives on a collective, non-hierarchical platform, to facilitate 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 and lockdown.

The vision of Vikalp Sutra is to promote community self-reliance, based on the principles of dignity, justice, equity, peace and ecological sustain-ability. Consisting of civil society, community institutions, local governance bodies, and other support groups and networks, this platform will facilitate vulnerable communities and individuals to exercise their agency in claiming these inalienable rights and values.

Sutra Vaani is a free and locally facilitated toll-free call back number for workers (especially informal/ unorganised sector) in livelihoods' distress. The toll-free call back number responds to the needs of workers searching for dignified livelihood opportunities and related support in their home state or 30 otherwise. These responses are available in the form of information and/ or direct support at the local level.

In this year, Sutra Vaani has been initiated in Village Bhaju, Rajasthan in collaboration with URMUL Semant Samiti. The helpline started with sharing information on a local and new innovations in farming for the local farmers, many of whom are first generation farmers. The helpline number: 9654962444. The information is being shared across 55 villages

Sutra Mandali is one of Vikalp Sutra's initiatives and is a space for collective knowledge sharing and mentoring on issues and strategies around sustainable and dignified livelihoods, concepts that encompass rights, security, access, justice and well-being for all living beings.

Objectives

1. To create an understanding of the concept of 'dignified livelihoods.'
2. To share strategies that work in creating/ building dignified livelihoods.
3. To discuss challenges, both internal and external, in enabling dignified livelihoods.
4. To find mentorship and solutions (i.e. collaborations & resources) that help build and sustain dignified livelihoods, for a specific occupational category of people, function or sector.

Mandali's held this year:

- Sutra Mandali on Law and Policy, 23 April 2022 :
<https://www.facebook.com/sutravikalp/videos/3116976061889178>
- Sutra Mandali on Women Farmers, 4 May 2022:
<https://www.facebook.com/sutravikalp/videos/1583759382018178>
- Sutra Mandali on Non Traditional Livelihoods, 29 October 2022:
<https://www.facebook.com/sutravikalp/videos/628757582068593>



These conversations have led to building a Dignified Livelihood Canvas, a self-exploratory understanding of work done by different groups, communities and individuals in their journey to find dignified livelihoods, their innovations to do so, and how they have impacted change. This will be looking at several different lenses on the basis of which people, organisations, communities, networks and movements will reflect their efforts on building dignity in livelihood. Currently, there is a working draft which will be sent around to different groups and organisations to add comments.

AjeeWiki is designed as a dynamic and synergistic collective space that shall function as a database of organisations and individuals working on dignified livelihoods across India. It will also serve as a collaborative platform to collaborate and communicate on the concept and practice of dignified livelihoods across the country.

It has been developed by Vikalp Sutra in the context of the livelihood crisis and migration (from cities to villages) as a result of lockdowns during the Covid19 pandemic. At the same time, it caters to a larger, unmet need to foreground dignified livelihoods in thinking and practice on the right to work. In its design and use, AjeeWiki is advocating for some basic and uncompromisable standards and values necessary for the practice of dignified livelihoods.

The ‘**core**’ section of AjeeWiki includes a listing of organisations (including civil society, alternatives, panchayats/ gram sabhas, social enterprises, private bodies, etc.) and individuals (researchers, practitioners, ideators, etc.) who facilitate, provide and/ or support dignified livelihoods to local communities in rural and urban India. This listing is user-friendly (and as exhaustive as possible), across the following categories (and their sub-categories):

- Livelihood sectors (within agriculture and allied sectors; manufacturing and industrial sectors; service sectors and informational technology)
- Organised and Unorganised sectors
- Rural and Urban
- Labour categories
- Essential Livelihood Resources
- Strategies to strengthen and promote dignified livelihoods

The ‘**micro**’ section of AjeeWiki includes specific Wiki pages of the listed organisations and individuals, with detailed information on their perspective, knowledge, challenges and practical solutions on dignified livelihoods. This section will enable user-interface and partnerships by allowing users to identify the ideal organisation and/ or individuals based on their own needs, and request for collaborations on promoting dignified livelihoods. Here, the users will be provided with an interactive ‘contact’ pop-up, that will allow them to access and reach the listed organisations or individuals.

AjeeWiki is an opportunity to share information, experience and collaborate around dignified livelihoods of the working class population in the country. It is expected to evolve and grow with greater user access, to be a “one-of-its-kind dignified livelihoods Wiki”.



Vasudha Varadarajan, Ashish Kothari, and Vipul Sangoi are on the Sutra anchor team.

Vikalp Sangam activities (other than those carried out under above-mentioned projects)

Members have been involved in several Vikalp Sangam related activities on a voluntary basis, including:

1. Helping coordinate the framing of a policy on Grievance Redressal that could be used by the VS network on issues of harassment, inter-organisation disputes, and so on.
2. Participation in a group on increasing understanding of carbon markets
3. Participation in generating a database of key information on VS Core Group members
4. Participation in a survey assessing reasons for inadequate participation in VS activities and correspondence, and suggestions for what could be done to improve it
5. Inputs to 7th avatar of 'In Search of Alternatives' (VS's overall vision note)
6. Helping coordinate a statement on the demand for 6th Schedule for Ladakh, 1.2.2023 (<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/statement-and-appeal-on-ladakh-constitutional-status/>)
7. Inputs to finalisation of 'Pandemic Resilience in Urban India', 7th volume of 'Extraordinary Work of 'Ordinary' People: Beyond Pandemics and Lockdowns' (<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/pandemic-resilience-in-urban-india/>)
8. Coordination of 'Statement to Bharat Jodo Yatra, on the Need for Innovative, Fundamental Alternatives To Currently Dominant Economic And Political System', 6.12.2022 (<https://vikalpsangam.org/article/statement-to-bharat-jodo-yatra/>)

2. Activities at global levels

Global Tapestry of Alternatives

Launched in 2019, the Global Tapestry of Alternatives (GTA) is an attempt to link networks of alternatives such as Vikalp Sangam across the world. Two members of Kalpavriksh are in the core team anchoring the GTA. Since then, it has been continuously expanding its activities (see <https://globaltapestryofalternatives.org/events/index>).

Following have been the key highlights from the past year.

The GTA Assembly is held every 3 months to introduce new members, follow up on updates and discuss upcoming plans. You can read more about the assembly here:

https://globaltapestryofalternatives.org/assembly:2022_10_03

The first physical meeting of the assembly will be held in Kenya in August 2023. This gathering is to enable the reviewing of GTA activities, to learn, exchange, and build relationships with diverse networks working on alternatives.



GTA Mapping is a process to chart out all endorsers and weavers in a digital web space according to their geographical locations, while also making the process participatory. Next in action is to get endorsers on board to use the web space for updates and information management. The Beta version of the mapping platform is available at [this link](#).

PeDAGoG (Post-Development Academic-Activist Global Group) is a global network of academics and academic activists interested in post-development, radical alternatives, and related themes. <https://globaltapestryofalternatives.org/webinars:2022:learning:03>

The GTA periodical “Weaving Alternatives” attempts to bring to news, perspectives, thoughts, ideas, reflections, and dialogues on alternatives to the current dominant regimes. Importantly, what do they offer us as pathways towards just, equitable and ecologically wise futures? The periodical is shared every quarterly, sometimes thematic and sometimes general. <https://globaltapestryofalternatives.org/newsletters:index>

Resilience & Regenerative Series: GTA initiated a process of capturing resilience stories from different communities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The first step of the resilience case studies focused on short stories that captured the actions of different groups to operate collectively and support resilience in times of multiple crises. Each of the stories explored the process that led to the community being resilient (pre-Covid), how resilience that was established has helped during the pandemic and the lessons learnt for radical alternatives. Second of the series was released in 2022:

<https://globaltapestryofalternatives.org/reports:pandemic:02>

In 2022-23, the 3rd volume of community resilience/regenerative stories is being compiled. This focuses on the stories/ peoples experiences responding to crises and simultaneously rethinking the economic, social, political, cultural and ecological approaches to life.

A Weavers’ Dialogue initiative was proposed to better understand the weaving process from all 4 weavers. The first weaver’s dialogue took place on the 4th of December 2022 between GTA's weavers in India, Colombia and Mexico to approach each other in diversity and to weave and inspire each other. The recording can be found below.

<https://globaltapestryofalternatives.org/weavers:index?redirect=1>

https://globaltapestryofalternatives.org/events:2021_waewers_dialogue

Synthesising understanding of radical alternatives: Through both a dialogue process and correspondence, GTA facilitated its weavers to work on a synthesis of how each views radical alternatives (how to identify, how to distinguish from ‘false’ solutions, etc). The current version of this evolving document is at:

<https://globaltapestryofalternatives.org/weavers:criteria>

GTA Webinars: The aim is to collaborate and bring out new ideas from within the network to anchor discussions on radical transformative practices. This is done by having sessions with activists, scholars, researchers, mobilisers, practitioners across the world who have engaged in exploring systemic alternatives to the dominant regimes, contesting its roots in



capitalist, patriarchal, racist, statist, and anthropocentric forces. One series of webinars has been

‘Learnings for Alternative Futures’

(<https://globaltapestryofalternatives.org/webinars:2022:learning:index>), including:

- [01/04/22 | Living Utopias](#)
- [05/05/22 | Pedagogies of Transformance in the Brazilian Amazon with the Rivers of Meeting Project](#)
- [08/07/22 | Unitierra Oaxaca: Learning and Hope](#)
- [16/11/22 | Cosmopolitical learning: some reflections on praxis](#)

And a stand-alone one by PeDAGoG, on ‘Beautiful Resistance’, 23 March 2023

(https://globaltapestryofalternatives.org/events:2023_beautiful_resistance)

Adelante, as a platform for several global platforms to synergise and do collective activities, was on slow track in the year, due to pre-occupations of several of the member organisations. A collective vision document was worked on, emerging as a Manifesto ‘**Declaration on Global Crises and Radical Alternatives**’ (available at the following in English, Spanish and French: <https://adelante.global/doku.php?id=manifesto>).

Other global activities

‘Producing Alternative Green Futures’ project: Advisory role in project ‘Green Transitions’ of Riskolde University (Denmark) and WITS University (South Africa), including hosting, advising, and making connections for PhD students doing fieldwork on alternative initiatives in India and on the VS process.

Manifesto for an Ecosocial Energy Transition from the Peoples of the South: Inputs to this document and subsequent promotion, emerging from EcoSocial Pact of the South and Global Just Transition (Institute for Policy Studies)

D. Inter Thematic Project

Project: Democratising Conservation Governance in India - Institutional Support’ 2

Project Coordinator: Neema Pathak Broome

Project Team: Meenal Tatpati, Pradeep Chavan, Rudrath Avinashi, Akshay Chettri, Subhas Dolas, Parwata

Year of commencement: 2022

Year of completion: ongoing



Funds sanctioned: Rs.1,32,40,000.00

- Year 1: October 2022-September 2023: Rs. 4,000,000/-

Funding agency: Paul Hamlyn Foundation

The main objectives of the grant are:

- Ensuring that the honorarium of any member who was struggling to find resources to support work, or whose funding would only come for a few months, or a few months later would be prioritised.
- Ensuring that part of core administration work including part salaries of our staff and the rent for our office space would be supported.
- Ensuring that all members and staff who voluntarily opted for health insurance would be provided through the organisation.
- Working towards understanding the feasibility of securing provident funds for the staff.
- Expanding the accounts team to deal with ever increasing legal and book-keeping requirements..
- Exploring the possibility of working with external fund-raising personnel or organisations to outsource the task of keeping track of funding cycles and to explore hitherto unexplored funding opportunities.
- Exploring taking on a communications coordinator to support us with outreach

Themes and activities supported:

1. Conservation and Livelihoods

- Protected Areas: Creating a blog site for PA database, honorariums for two research associates, field visits and fact-finding for community reserves
- Community Conserved Areas: Maintenance of CCA Portal, Funds for the South Asia Regionalisation Meeting, honorarium for research associate



- Bhimashankar work: Honorariums for team, travel of team members, wild vegetable festivals

2. Alternatives

- Vikalp Sutra coordination
- Website Curation and maintenance
- Films on alternatives
- Youth Vikalp Sangam activities

3. Environment Education

- Project coordination

4. Intra-thematic activities

- Social security to members of the staff: Voluntary health insurance secured
- Communications coordinator hired for Kalpavriksh
- Explorations for fund-raiser or fund-raising organisation
- Reflections meeting

PART B: PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS

A. Kalpavriksh Publications and Outputs

A.1 Published Books and Reports

1. Bajpai, Shrishtee and Kothari, Ashish, with Tsewang Namgail, Karma Sonam, and Kunzang Deachen. (2022). *The Goba of Ladakh: Current Relevance of a Traditional*



Governance System. Kalpavriksh, Snow Leopard Conservancy - India Trust, Nature Conservation Foundation, Local Futures and Ladakh Arts and Media Organisation. Pune & Leh, India. <https://vikalpsangam.org/article/the-goba-of-ladakh-report/>

A.2 Letters and Petitions

A.3 Audiovisual Outputs

1. Conversation with Mayalmit Lepcha, an activist of the Affected Citizens of Teesta struggling against mega-hydro projects in Sikkim; and Minket Lepcha, a story-teller of the Lepcha community. 6-8 November 2022. <https://youtu.be/6AgkGwe5ZdA>
Conversation with Dinga Sikwebu, on South African workers' movement for climate justice, Johannesburg, 15 March 2023. <https://youtu.be/xHAKRCv2Jf8>
2. Conversation with Vishwas Satgar, on South Africa's Climate Justice Charter, Johannesburg, 15 March 2023. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0YAWJFc3aSk>

B. Other Publications

B.1 Articles

Kothari, A. 2022. 'Delhi to be declared a tiger reserve', 1.4.2022, <https://ashishkothari.in/delhi-to-be-declared-tiger-reserve/>

Kothari, A. 2022. 'Does nature play? Rebuilding our relationship with the Earth', meer.com, 13.4.2022, <https://www.meer.com/en/69225-does-nature-play>

Kothari, A. 2022. 'Sustainability without equality is impossible: the world's rich are hideously unsustainable', meer.com, 13.5.2022, <https://www.meer.com/en/69636-sustainability-without-equality-is-impossible>

Kothari, A. 2022. 'Rescuing (more) words: how they can regain their transformatory potential', meer.com, 13.6.2022, <https://www.meer.com/en/69933-rescuing-more-words>

Kothari, A. 2022. 'Rebuilding co-existence: Snow leopard, brown bear and human interactions in Zaskar, Ladakh', *Sanctuary Asia*, June 2022



Kothari, A. 2022. 'At 75, is India behaving like a responsible elder? Its ecological record does not indicate it is', meer.com, 1.8.2022, <https://www.meer.com/en/70391-at-75-is-india-behaving-like-a-responsible-elder>

Kothari, A. 2022. 'Where the mind is without fear' (poem), *Radical Ecological Democracy*, Aug 2022, <https://radicalecologicaldemocracy.org/where-the-mind-is-without-fear/>

Kothari, A. 2022. 'The flower of transformation blooms in Kurdistan: Alternatives for justice and sustainability in a war-torn area', meer.com, 13.9.2022, <https://www.meer.com/en/70676-the-flower-of-transformation-blooms-in-kurdistan>

Kothari, A. 2022. 'Colonisers and colonised: why do the formerly colonised become colonisers?', meer.com, 22.10.2022, <https://www.meer.com/en/71068-colonisers-and-colonized>

Kothari, A. 2022. 'A clash of worldviews: How the modern world can learn from Indigenous cultures', meer.com, 18.11.2022, <https://www.meer.com/en/71355-a-clash-of-worldviews>

Kothari, A. 2022. 'A flowering of radical change', Contribution to Great Transition Initiative's 'Which future are we living in' debate, <https://www.greattransition.org/gti-forum/which-future-kothari>

Kothari, A. 2022. 'India as G20 President: Fit for this purpose?', meer.com, 22.12.2022, <https://www.meer.com/en/71698-india-as-g20-president>

Saint, K., Shrivastava, A, and Kothari, A. 2023. 'The sacred ecology of ahimsa', *The Beacon*, 29.1.2023, <https://www.thebeacon.in/2023/01/29/the-sacred-ecology-of-ahimsa/>

Kothari, A. 2023. 'It did not stop the dam, but is it a failure? The many faces of India's Narmada movement', meer.com, 13.2.2023, <https://www.meer.com/en/72111-it-did-not-stop-the-dam-but-is-it-a-failure>

कोठारी, अ. २०२३. 'बांध तो नहीं रुका, लेकिन क्या आंदोलन भी असफल रहा?', सर्वोदय प्रेस सर्विस, ३।३।२०२३

कोठारी, अ. २०२३. 'वैश्विक संकट के माहौल में आदिवासी समुदाय का नजरिया नई राह दिखा सकता है, उनकी आवाज सुनी जाए', द प्रिन्ट, २९।३।२०२३, <https://hindi.theprint.in/opinion/world-crisis-environment-adivasis-voice-new-way-india-climate-change-ecology/504581/>

Kothari, A. 2023. 'Should sacredness not be equal? Discrimination in the treatment of holy sites', meer.com, 31.3.2023, <https://www.meer.com/en/72953-should-sacredness-not-be-equal>



PART C: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

April 2022

- 1: GTA-PeDAGoG (& others) webinar, 'Living Utopias'
- 2: Presentation on Rights of Nature and Eco-swaraj, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (Shrishtee, Ashish)
- 3: Grounded Voices – Vikalp Varta webinar, 'Swaraj – Voices of Radical Democracy'
- 15: Panelist on webinar 'Financialisation of Nature and Territories of Life', Ca 'Foscari University of Venice (Ashish)
- 15-16: Birding trip, Bhigwan (Maharashtra) (Akshay, Vasudha, Sujatha, Ashish)
- 21: Panelist on webinar 'South-South Dialogue', Latin American Ecosocial Pact and Global Just Transitions (Ashish)
- 22: Panelist on webinar 'Next System Design Lab', Democracy Collaborative, USA (Ashish)
- 25: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' to Textile Design students, National Institute of Design (Ashish)
- 27: Presentation on history/idea of ICCA Consortium, ICCA Consortium General Assembly (Ashish)
- 29: Presentation on 'Sustainable Development Goals and Eco-swaraj', National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, Medicine of USA (Ashish)

May 2022

- 3-5: Presentations, panelist, moderation at webinars at World Social Forum, by GTA and Adelante, including 'Grounded Voices Towards Radical Democracy', 'Latin American Fabric on Socio-Economic Transformations', 'Radical Transformative Alternatives', and 'Assembly on Convergence of Radical Alternatives' (Ashish, Shrishtee)
- 12-30: Trip to Ladakh for study and meetings on Goba traditional governance (Shrishtee, Ashish)
- 25: Presentation on alternatives, Ladakh University, Leh (Ashish)



June 2022

- 4: Panelist on webinar ‘Gandhi-Mandel-Friere Dialogues – Seeking, Shaping, Sharing their Relevance Today’, Loyola College of Social Sciences, Kerala (Ashish)
- 4: Presentation on ‘Environment and Development’, Isabella Thoburn College (Ashish)
- 11: Summer Reading Olympiad with GetLit using *The Monster who could not climb a tree* (Tanya)
- 13: Session of International Commission of Amazon Sacred Headwaters Initiative (Ashish)
- 18: Panelist on webinar ‘Addressing Failings and Violence in Dominant Development Models & Options for Radical Alternatives’, Cambridge Development Initiative (Ashish)
- 21: Panelist on webinar ‘Impact of COVID19 on Rural India’, Indian Social Institute (Ashish)

July 2022

- 1-2: VSCG Facilitation Team meeting, Pune
- 8: Presentation on ‘Eco-swaraj’ to ‘52 Parindey’ fellows, Travellers’ University (Ashish)
- 8: Session on ‘Naturalising Delhi’, South Asia Bioregionalism Working Group
- 9: Presentation on ‘Radical alternatives’, to participants of Gandhi-Mandela-Friere Fellowship (Ashish)
- 12: Presentation on ‘Eco-swaraj’, Course on ‘Ecological Economics for All’, Gund Institute / ISEE, University of Vermont
- 12-24: Visit to Ladakh for Goba case study, presentations to govt officials, civil society, media and gobas (Shrishtee, Ashish)
- 14: Keynote presentation on ‘Eco-swaraj’ to European Sociological Association conference ‘Sociology of Religion’ (Ashish)
- 17: Grounded Voices – Vikalp Varta on ‘Community Forest Rights’
- 21: Participation in South-South Dialogue on alternatives, of Global Just Transition and Ecosocial Energy Transition Manifesto process
- 26: Panel discussion on Environmental Education: Practices, Developments and Debates organised by Wipro Foundation (Sujatha)
- 28: Presentation on ‘Eco-swaraj’ to International Baccalaureate curriculum group (Ashish)
- 28: Panelist on webinar ‘Redesigning the Economy for Sustainability and Social Justice’, Global Just Transition / IPS

August 2022

- 8-18: Participation in Academy of Democratic Modernity course of Kurdish movement, including presentation on alternatives in India, Switzerland (Ashish)
- 21: Letter to Pune Municipal Corporation in support of Pune Bicycle Plan
- 27: Meet the Author session with GetLit using *The Poop Book* (Sujatha)

September 2022

- 1: Webinar on ‘Mapping Bioregions’, South Asia Bioregionalism Working Group
- 2: Presentation on ‘Eco-swaraj’ to Centre for Law, Justice and Development of National Law University Delhi (Ashish)



- 4: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' to Odisha Economic Association (Ashish)
- 4: Grounded Voices – Vikalp Varta webinar 'Transformative Learning – Dialogue on Alternative Education Spaces'
- 10-13: Youth Vikalp Sangam at Fireflies, Bengaluru (Sujatha, Urvi)
- 9-23: Visit to Ladakh for Goba study follow up, gatherings, presentations, release of final report (Shrishtee, Ashish)
- 17-18: 'Celebrating Nas (Barley) – Confluence and Fest', part of Ladakh Vikalp Sangam process, Ranbirpur (Leh), co-organised by Kalpavriksh, LAMO, SLC-IT, Local Futures Ladakh (Arnaz, Subhash, Pradeep, Shrishtee, Ashish)
- 22: Panelist (online) in 'Post-growth / Degrowth' seminar, CSDS and Shiv Nadar University
- 22: Transformative Learning: Dialogue on alternative education spaces and their pedagogies organised by Vikalp Sangam, Vikalp Varta, NAPM and Grounded Voices on 22nd Sep '22 (Tanya was a speaker)
- 24: Games and Nature Education organised by Early Bird (Sujatha was a speaker)
- 28-30: KV AGBM, Bhimashankar

October 2022

- 3: GTA Assembly meeting
- 5: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' to Masters on Climate Change & Diversity, University of Padova (Italy) (Ashish)
- 6: Presentation on Alternatives/Vikalp Sangam/GTA to North Carolina Environmental Justice Network (Pallav, Ashish)
- 7: PeDAGoG meeting
- 8: Panelist on Intergenerational Dialogue of Indian Youth Biodiversity Network (Ashish)
- 9: Grounded Voices – Vikalp Varta on Handmade Livelihoods
- 14-23: Visit to Ladakh, follow up of Goba study, formation of Leh District Goba Association (Ashish)
- 22: Session with Bee Bookspace's book club members using *Ghost of the Mountains* (Sujatha)
- 25: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj and Buen Vivir' to Misereor (Ashish)
- 26: GTA-Greenpeace International webinar 'Going Beyond GDP' (Pallav)
- 27: Keynote presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' at Deep Commons Conference, University College York (Ashish)
- 29: Presentation on 'Bioregionalism in South Asia', in webinar 'Bioregional Regeneration Summit', Regenerative Communities Network (Shrishtee, Ashish)

November 2022

- 1-3: VS Core Group meeting, Timbaktu Collective (Andhra) (several members)
- 5: Visit to Kalpavalli community conserved area (Andhra) (several members)
- 6-8: Indigenous and Other Community Worldviews Vikalp Sangam, Timbaktu Collective (Andhra) (several members)
- 10-11: Participation in Rivers of Life event (dialogues, exhibition) including sessions on Narmada and rights of rivers, Azim Premji University (Bengaluru) (Ashish, Shrishtee)



- 17: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' to Decolonising Climate Change programme, University of Freiburg (Ashish)
- 17: Moderation of 'Social Change vs. Climate Change – Framing it Right for Planetary Health', SRM Institute of Science and Technology (Ashish)
- 18: Webinar 'North Country Watershed Rights (Rites) of Nature', South Asia Bioregionalism Working Group
- 18: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' to Next Economy Lab (Germany) (Ashish)
- 19: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' to 'Pluriversum', Grupo Sal (Germany) (Ashish)
- 20: Birding trip, Pashan / Ramnadi, Pune
- 22: Birding trip, Panchwati forest, Pune
- 22: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' to University of Edinburgh (Ashish)
- 23: Presentation on 'Environment, Development and Alternatives', to Baha'i Chair for Development Studies, Devi Ahilya University (Ashish)
- 24: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' to Schumacher College (Ashish)
- 26: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' to Junior Research Group on Environmental Sociology, German Society for Sociology (Ashish)
- 26: Opening presentation for webinar 'Mobilisations for Biodiversity in Context of Climate Change', Reseau d'innovation Sociale et Ecologiste (Ashish)
- 26: Session at Bookaroo, Delhi: *The Monster who could not climb a tree* (Tanya)
- 28: Meet the Author session with GetLit using *The Poop Book* with Bombay Scottish School (Sujatha)
- 28: Meet the Author session with GetLitt using *The Monster who could not climb a tree* with Bombay Scottish School (Tanya)
- 30: Panelist on webinar 'Critical Engagements with Rights of Nature', Penn Programme on Environmental Humanities, University of Pennsylvania (Ashish)

December 2022

- 3-4: Birding trip to Bhigwan, Maharashtra (Rudrath, Ashish)
- 7: Panelist on 'Evolving Role of Civil Society', WIPRO Foundation, Paud, Maharashtra (Ashish)
- 7: PeDAGoG meeting
- 11: TEDx talk on 'Free', Symbiosis Institute of Operations Management, Nashik (Ashish)
- 15: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj and Rights of Nature, to workshop on 'Fostering Eco-centric Community-led Restoration and Conservation in Ganga Basin', SOAS and TMBU Bhagalpur (Ashish)
- 16: Panelist at 'Hope and Change' Film festival, Protecterra, Pune (Ashish)
- 17: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' at 'Climate4Youth' event, United World College
- 20: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' to Lund University, Sweden (Ashish)
- 21: Panelist on 'Role of Religion and Customs in Climate Change and Environmental Justice', Tell Me Your Story and University of Hawaii (Ashish)
- 24: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' to Gramya Manthan, Youth Alliance, Ahmedabad (Ashish)

January 2023



- 10: GTA Assembly
- 11: GTA dialogue between Vikalp Sangam and Movement for Alternatives and Solidarity in South-East Asia
- 14: Presentation on use of Alternatives Transformation Format for study of Weavers' transformation in Kachchh to VS Ambassadors team (Ashish)
- 18: Panelist on 'Politics in the Polycrisis', Liminality Network (Ashish)
- 23: Discussion on 'Eco-swaraj', Development Masters of Universidad de Simon Bolivar (Ashish)
- 27: GTA-PeDAGoG webinar 'Strategies beyond Borders – Tale of Time Banks'
- 30: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' to Degrowth Masters, Universidad de Autonoma Barcelona (Ashish)

February 2023

- 2-14: Trip to Ladakh for Goba study follow-up (Shrishtee, Ashish)
- 4: Moderator for webinar 'The Environment and Union Budget 2023-24', IMPRI (Ashish)
- 10: Panelist on 'Ecosocial Energy Transition Manifesto', Institute for Policy Studies, GTA, et al (Ashish)
- 16: South Asia Bioregionalism Working Group webinar 'Australia Earth Laws Alliance' by Michelle Maloney
- 20: Presentation on 'Radical Conservation and Well-being', to Cambridge Conservation Initiative (Ashish)
- 24: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' to International Institute of Environment and Development (Ashish)
- 25: Discussion on 'Eco-swaraj' at Ecological Society, Pune (Ashish)
- 28: Presentation on 'Radical Conservation and Well-being' at WITS University, Johannesburg (Ashish)

March 2023

- 1: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' at WITS University, Johannesburg (Ashish)
- 3-6: Participation in Workshop on 'Green Transitions Project' of Roskilde University, at WITS University, Johannesburg (Ashish)
- 17: Panelist on 'Living Transition Pathways' in 'Post-Capitalist Philanthropy' series, Transition Resource Circle (Ashish)
- 19: Second edition of Azim Premji University's Nature Writing for Children course (Sujatha Padmanabhan was an invitee to interact with the participants)
- 21: GTA-PeDAGoG webinar 'Beautiful Resistance' by Abdulfatteh Abusrour
- 23: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' to seminar 'Religion, Ecology and Justice', Christian Institute for Study of Religion and Society and Delhi Forum (Ashish)
- 25: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' to Centre for Social Dialogue (Ashish)
- 29: Presentation on 'Eco-swaraj' to Jindal University (Ashish)
- 31: Panelist on 'Global Discussion on Next System Related Fields', George Mason University and Democracy Collaborative (Ashish)



PART D: LIST OF KALPAVRIKSH MEMBERS

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



40. Vipul Sangoi
41. Yashodara Kundaji

PART E: LIST OF DONORS AND FUNDERS

List of donors 2022-23

A. P A update Newsletter

1. Pankaj Sekhsariya
2. Aju Mukhopadhyaya
3. Dr.Farookh Wadia

B. Alternative Work

1. C.K.Ganguly
2. Sujatha Padmanabhan

C. Children's Books

1. Rajiv P M Eipe

List of funders – 2022-23

1. Heinrich Boell Stiftung (India Centre)
2. MISEREOR
3. ICCA Consortium
4. Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Trust
5. Global Green Grants
8. Paul Hamlyn Foundation



9. Tere Des Hommes

10. Sahajeevan



PART F: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

KALPAVRIKSH Statement of Assets and Liabilities As on 31st March 2023

SN	Particulars	Sch No.	(Rs) As on 31st March '23		(Rs) As on 31st March '22	
A	Sources of Funds					
I.	Trust Fund			2,26,314		2,26,314
II.	General Fund					
	Opening balance		29,19,474		34,57,081	
	Add: Surplus for the year		1,40,091		(5,37,606)	
	Closing balance			30,59,565		29,19,474
III.	Restricted Funds					
	Conditional Donations and Grants	1		41,08,862		54,36,101
	TOTAL [I + II + III]			73,94,741		85,81,889
B.	Application of Funds					
IV.	Fixed Assets	2		1,97,827		1,60,244
V.	Bank FDs & Interest Accrued	3		13,81,826		13,87,391
	Current Assets, Loans & Advances	4	60,27,919		70,88,048	
	Less: Current Liabilities & Provisions	4	(2,12,830)		53,794	
VI.	Net Current Assets			58,15,089		70,34,254
VII.	Notes to Accounts	5				
	TOTAL [IV + V + VI + VII]			73,94,741		85,81,889

As per our attached report of even date

Paresh Sarda and Company
Chartered Accountants
FRN.: 140714W

Paresh Sarda

Paresh S Sarda
Partner
M.N.: 143211
Pune: 28th October 2023
UDIN - 23143211BGRZUU2789



For and on behalf of Kalpavriksh

Shri. K. K. Kulkarni
Member

Neema Pathale
Secretary





KALPAVRIKSH
Income & Expenditure Account
For the financial year 2022-23

SN	Particulars	Amount (Rs) FY 22-23	Amount (Rs) FY 21-22
A.	Income		
	Sales	85,881	2,30,881
	Grants utilised	1,68,40,404	1,46,24,511
	Donations received	-	42,666
	Income from publications	8,83,750	5,60,151
	Other Income		
	-Interest Income	1,41,705	1,06,386
	-Membership Fees	21,500	20,000
	-Royalty Received	38,602	55,835
	-Contributions to publication	-	2,232
	Total Income	1,80,11,842	1,56,42,662
B	Expenditure		
	Staff Payments and Benefits	7,38,750	7,18,080
	Honorarium and Professional Fees	1,01,48,622	1,02,64,224
	Rent, Rates and Taxes	3,75,299	3,19,296
	Communication Expenses	15,00,888	5,12,719
	Printing and Stationary	13,58,122	8,13,808
	Electricity expenses	13,380	6,290
	Travelling and conveyance expenses	20,27,198	7,85,252
	Remuneration to Auditors	70,800	59,000
	Other Expenses	15,92,696	26,40,052
	Repairs and Maintenance	4,540	18,260
	Depreciation for the year	41,455	43,287
	Total Expenditure	1,78,71,751	1,61,80,268
C	Surplus / (Deficit) (A - B)	1,40,091	(5,37,606)

As per our attached report of even date

For Paresh Sarda and Company
Chartered Accountants
FRN.: 140714W

Paresh S. Sarda
Paresh S. Sarda
Partner
M.N.: 143211
Pune: 28th October 2023
UDIN - 23143211BGRZUU2789



For and on behalf of Kalpavriksh

Heema Pathak
Secretary

Shirish Bajpai
Member

