

WILDLIFE INFORMATION LIAISON DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY

ACTIVITY REPORT 2024-2025





RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

BUILDING EVIDENCE FOR CONSERVATION GLOBALLY!

12

issues published

1880

pages published

230

publications



THE JOURNAL OF THREATENED TAXA

The Journal of Threatened Taxa (JoTT) is an open access and print, peer reviewed monthly (not including special edition, supplementary and monographs), rapid, international journal for conservation and taxonomy. JoTT is a platform for quick and timely publication of research findings, reviews and other aspects of science related to conservation and taxonomy including subject areas like ecology, behavior, physiology, methodology, veterinary, diseases, management, and models among others. JoTT encourages professional and amateur upcoming scientists from around the world to publish. The journal provides assistance and mentors first time writers, or writers of non-native English language countries in presenting science to the world. **Wildlife Information Liaison Development publishes JoTT, and Zoo Outreach Organisation hosts and supports the journal.**

WETLAND RESTORATION

OBJECTIVES

Zoo Outreach Organisation, with support from BOSCH, is working on a wetland restoration project in Coimbatore. We're focusing on the Nallusamy Checkdam and Sambrani Kuttai in Keeranatham. Our goal is to bring these urban wetlands back to life and help people understand why they're important.

ACTIVITIES

- In Phase 1, we studied the plants and animals living in the area and talked to local people about the wetlands.
- In Phase 2, we established a native plant nursery for Coimbatore plains, featuring over 5,250 individuals across 40 native species. These plants will be used to restore the area in the future.
- Comprehensive biodiversity surveys documented more than 260 species across three seasons, while road-kill monitoring identified approximately 50 impacted species.
- The project successfully trained 39 local stakeholders and reached over 1,840 Bosch employees through field immersions and online sessions, creating a robust foundation for sustainable wetland restoration.
- Educational materials including 24 species identification cards and YouTube videos have been developed to ensure long-term community engagement in native species conservation.
- Our project brings together scientists, local community members, and BOSCH volunteers.

Sponsor: Bosch Global Software Technologies Pvt. Ltd.

Local NGO partners: RAAC, Kowsiga Neerkarangal, Recompose Recyclers.





SOUTH ASIAN INVERTEBRATE SPECIALIST GROUP



ASSESSMENT

- Completed data collation for the Red List Assessments & Conservation Action Plan (CAP) via literature review and meetups with experts
- Established network of Tarantula experts in India
- Successfully conducted Red List workshop in June 2025, currently in final review process
- Assessment results to be submitted to IUCN for review



ACTIVITIES

- Planning invertebrate taxonomy training workshop for Nilgiris landscape
- ICINSA network and SAsISG members expansion
- SAsISG social media page launch
- Covered Press release for Tiger Beetles in 8 states ([Link](#))

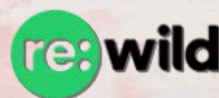


EDUCATION

- Kodaikanal education trip for mid school graders (2-4 February 2025)
- Organised Tiger Beetle talk by David Pearson for World Tiger Beetle Day Celebration and Kick-off
- Created and posted invertebrate contents on Facebook and Instagram for South Asian Invertebrate Specialist Group



Sponsor: The Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund.
Re:wild.





EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

RAM HATTIKUDUR ADVANCED TRAINING IN CONSERVATION

Theme: Grassland Ecosystem Conservation

Fellows: 10 participants from diverse backgrounds across India

Mission: Bridging conservation theory with practical implementation

Curriculum Delivered:

- Conservation fundamentals and specialized ecosystem knowledge
- Practical conservation skills and field techniques
- Scientific methodology and research ethics
- Grant writing and project management
- Communication and education strategies

Field Experiences:

- Achankulam Lake (bird watching, lake restoration)
- Rainforest Retreat (grassland ecology, organic farming)
- Tumkur (inselbergs and rocky outcrops)
- Mysore Zoo (ex-situ conservation)
- Pollachi (firefly conservation)
- SACON, Valparai (research methodology, human-elephant coexistence)

Expert Interactions:

- 60+ mentors and resource people
- 32+ conservation organisations
- Specialized workshops on Red Listing, translocation, and wildlife policy

Mentorship Program:

- Two-week field experience at Devihasol, Ratnagiri
- Five specialized projects on rocky outcrop conservation

Tangible Outputs:

- Educational materials published in Zoo's Print
- Conservation campaign designs
- Research proposals on grassland conservation
- School outreach session at Vidya Vanam School
- All trained fellows have now begun working in the conservation field.

The 2024-2025 RHATC program successfully equipped ten conservation leaders with knowledge, skills, and networks needed to implement effective grassland conservation initiatives across India. The program's unique combination of theory, field experience, and mentorship ensured graduates are ready to address complex conservation challenges.

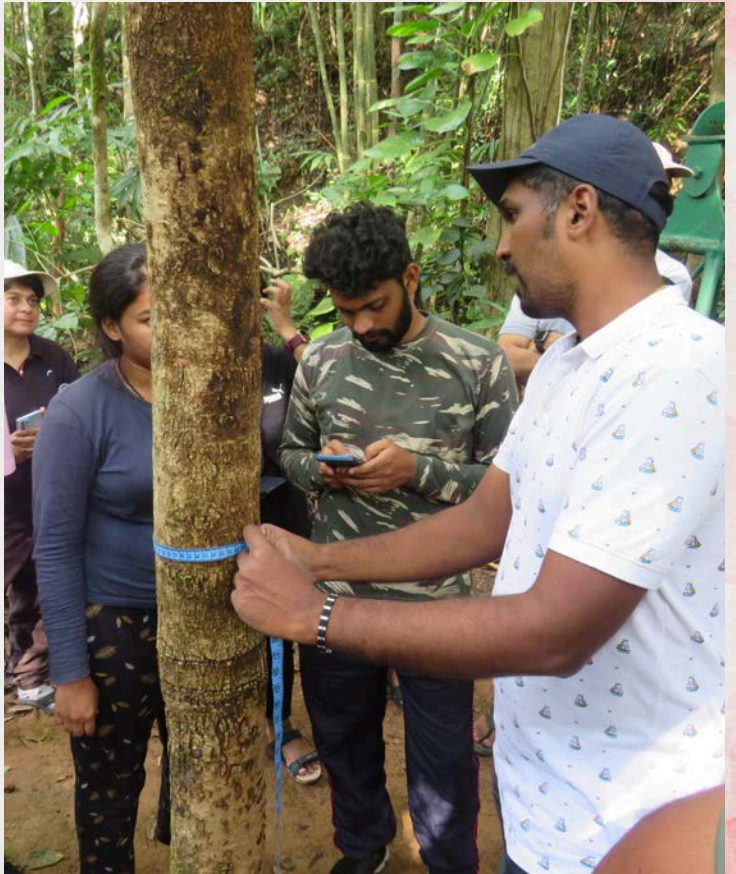
Sponsor: Mansukhani Family, Coromandel International Limited, & Sanjay Manohar Family & Friends,



Sanjay Manohar Family
and Friends

Mansukhani Family
RHATC Alumni





ART FOR CONSERVATION AND CLIMATE CRISIS

Art is an extremely powerful medium that has been used very effectively in the past to communicate social and environmental issues. Understanding this, Zooreach launched the Art for Conservation (A4C) project on 1 September 2023 with support from the U.S. Consulate General, Chennai to communicate the interconnected global problems of climate crisis and species loss that is destabilising human lives everywhere! The initiative successfully mobilized artists as powerful advocates for environmental action across southern India. Through strategic workshops, exhibitions, and community engagement from September 2023 to September 2024, this innovative program created meaningful dialogue about pressing conservation issues through artistic expression.

Key Impacts:

- **Trained 33 Artists:** Equipped emerging artists with specialized techniques in storytelling, illustrative art, and theatre through immersive workshops led by 7 expert artists from India and the USA
- **The two-day culminating exhibition** at Cluster Media College attracted diverse audiences including students, educators, conservationists, and community members
- **Through Digital Outreach:** Published artworks and stories in open-access conservation publications, extending the project's impact beyond physical attendance
- **Catalyzed Youth Participation:** Over 200 school children participated in drawing competitions exploring themes from ocean biodiversity to human-elephant relationships
- **Featured 25 Diverse Artworks:** Exhibition showcased compelling artistic interpretations of human-wildlife interactions and conservation challenges
- **Inspired Long-term Engagement:** Multiple participating artists have integrated their newfound skills into ongoing conservation projects, including one who now works at a government wildlife interpretation center
- **Established New Conservation Networks:** Created lasting connections between artists, scientists, indigenous community members, and conservation organizations for continued collaboration

The project demonstrated that art can be a powerful medium for transcending boundaries and communicating complex environmental issues in an accessible, emotionally engaging manner—providing a foundation for continued action on conservation and climate change mitigation in India.

Sponsor: US Consulate General, Chennai





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