

Echoes of Impact

A visual journey through HCLFoundation's
flagship Harit programme





Flight of the Painted Stork, Uttar Pradesh

How it unfolds

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Echoes
that endure!



Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh

Echoes of the Harit journey

Harit is driven by a long-term vision of environmental responsibility—one that recognises restoration as a continuous process, shaped by science, community partnership, and accountability to the ecosystems we engage with. Across diverse geographies, the programme works to strengthen natural systems while enabling communities to become active custodians of their environment.

This photo journal offers a visual window into that commitment. It traces Harit's journey across forests, waterbodies, classrooms, urban habitats, and coastlines, capturing the quiet but powerful moments where ecological action takes root. The images reflect the scale and diversity of our interventions, as well as the care, rigour, and collaboration that underpin them.

More than a record of projects, this collection represents Harit's approach to environmental stewardship—grounded in evidence, sustained through local ownership, and guided by a responsibility to protect natural assets for the future.

Together, these pages reaffirm our resolve to restore ecosystems in ways that are resilient, inclusive, and enduring.

The Team,
Harit by HCLFoundation

About HCLFoundation

HCLFoundation delivers the corporate social responsibility agenda of HCLTech in India. It contributes to national and international development goals by investing in long-term sustainable programmes and special initiatives with thematic focus on education, nurturing grassroots sports, health and sanitation, skill development and livelihood, environment, disaster risk reduction and response management. To ensure equitable development, child protective strategies, inclusion and gender transformative approaches are at the core of all the programmes.

Currently, HCLFoundation implements five flagship programmes: Samuday and HCLTech Grant (Rural Development); Uday and My Clean City (Urban Development); and Harit (Environment Action) and four special initiatives: Power of One, Sports for Change, Academy, and My E-Haat.

Vision

To be the source code for sustainable socio -economic and environmental development.

Mission

To nurture clean, green and healthy communities where everyone is empowered and equipped to reach their full potential in partnership with its employees, communities and stakeholders, while promoting volunteerism and establishing international standards of strategic planning, implementation and measuring impact.

Harit:

Catalyzing environmental action

A flagship programme under HCLFoundation,
Harit is dedicated to addressing the pressing challenges of
climate change, environmental degradation and biodiversity loss.

Guided by the vision to conserve, restore and enhance indigenous
environmental systems, Harit is committed to creating sustainable,
community-driven solutions that align with global climate priorities.



Plain Tiger Butterfly, Harit Upvan Amarpur



Gopeshwar, Uttarakhand

Foreword

Our Harit programme perfectly embodies a simple but profound belief—that what we do today shapes the world we pass on tomorrow.

It is our collective promise to nurture the planet through actions—big and small—that ripple outward into lasting impact. Across forests and wetlands, classrooms and coastlines, communities and habitats, Harit’s work reminds us that restoration is not an act, but a way of being.

This photobook offers a bird’s-eye view of that journey. It captures moments of regeneration: afforestation and habitat revival, water conservation, animal welfare, environment education, and coastal & marine stewardship. Though diverse in form, these five sub-thematics flow together as a single ecosystem of hope—rooted in science, strengthened by community, and guided by the resilience of nature.

As you turn these pages, may you see not just the landscapes we restore, but the shared intention behind them: to protect, to revive, and to inspire. Harit’s story is a reminder that when we care for the Earth, the Earth responds—with life, with balance and with possibility.

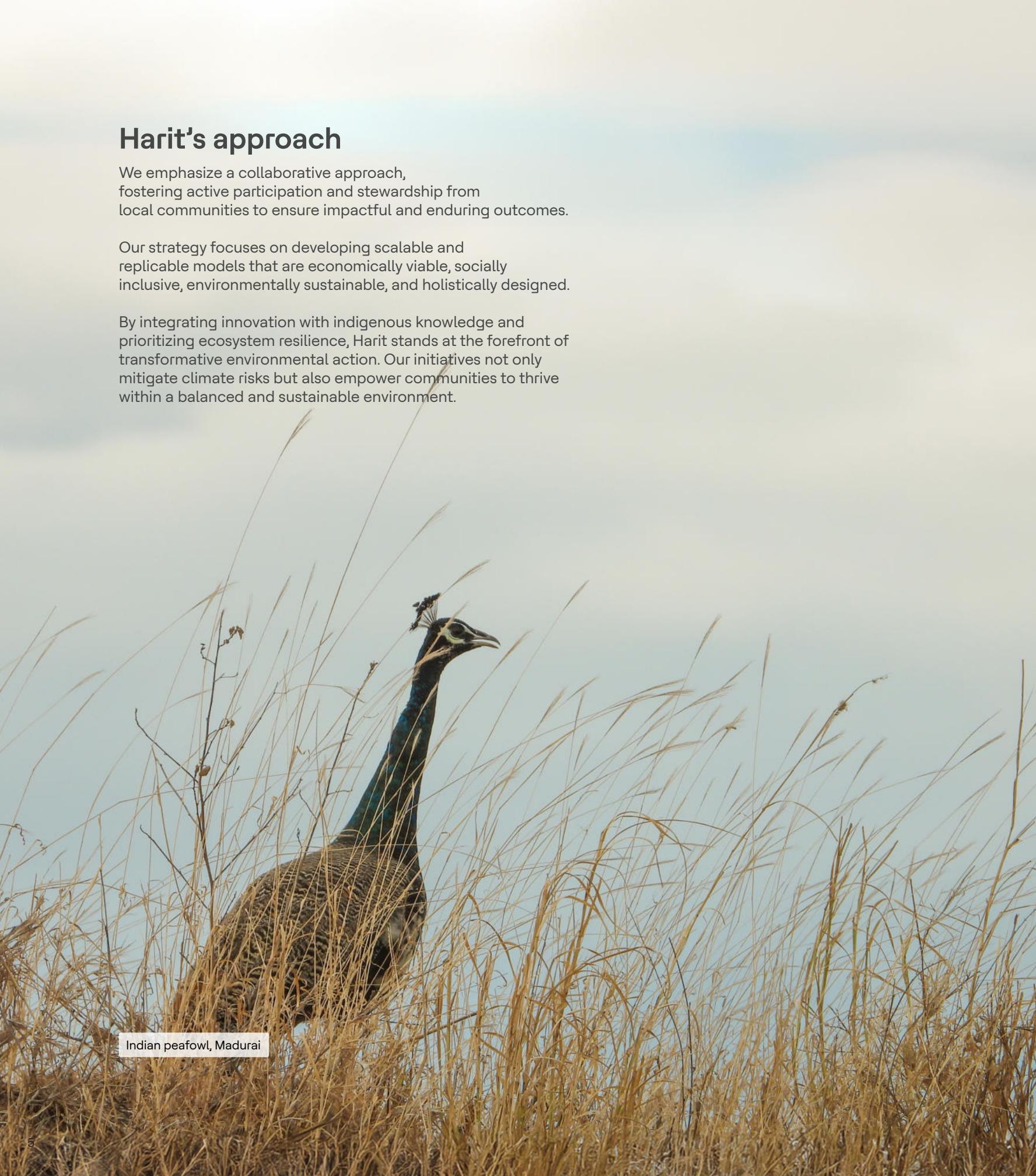
Dr. Nidhi Pundhir
SVP, Global CSR, HCLTech &
Director, HCLFoundation

Harit's approach

We emphasize a collaborative approach, fostering active participation and stewardship from local communities to ensure impactful and enduring outcomes.

Our strategy focuses on developing scalable and replicable models that are economically viable, socially inclusive, environmentally sustainable, and holistically designed.

By integrating innovation with indigenous knowledge and prioritizing ecosystem resilience, Harit stands at the forefront of transformative environmental action. Our initiatives not only mitigate climate risks but also empower communities to thrive within a balanced and sustainable environment.

A photograph of an Indian peafowl standing in a field of tall, dry, golden-brown grass. The peacock is facing right, its long, dark blue neck and head with a prominent crest clearly visible. Its body is covered in dark feathers with distinct light-colored spots. The background is a soft-focus sky.

Indian peafowl, Madurai

Synergizing SDGs and NIF for Comprehensive Development

Our integrated and holistic approach ensures that our initiatives are not only aligned with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) but also create a profound and measurable impact across key environmental, social, and economic dimensions.

Additionally, our initiatives align well with the National Indicator Framework (NIF), providing a localized approach to achieving global targets and contributing to critical developmental priorities through collaborative governance.



Goal 4: Quality Education

We foster environmental literacy, sustainability awareness, and skill-building, aligning with indicators on environmental education integration and outreach.



Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

Our efforts contribute to indicators related to groundwater recharge, water-use efficiency, and sustainable water resource management.



Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

Our projects involve renewable energy components and affordable energy solutions at various scales of implementation.



Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Our initiatives contribute to improved urban biodiversity and habitat management, aligning with indicators on urban sustainability, including animal welfare in urban ecosystems.



Goal 13: Climate Action

Our initiatives support indicators on climate resilience, carbon sequestration, and adaptation strategies.



Goal 14: Life Below Water

Our initiatives align with indicators addressing marine biodiversity, coastal ecosystem restoration, and pollution reduction.



Goal 15: Life on Land

Our initiatives support indicators on reforestation, biodiversity enhancement, and wildlife protection.



Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Our collaborative approaches align with indicators related to multi-stakeholder partnerships, resource mobilization, and capacity building.



Pied Kingfisher hovering before a dive, Uttarakhand

We...



Co-define with
communities



Design evidence-based
strategies



Understand challenges
& set visions



Monitor,
adapt & scale

**Our implementation utilizes
nature-based solutions focusing on**



Climate
resilience



Ecosystem services
improvement



Biodiversity
enhancement



Human well-being
and co-existence



Building resilient ecosystems and empowered communities—
one nature-based solution at a time.

Harit has...

10
States
reached

24
Districts
covered

32
NGO
Partners

41
Projects
implemented

15
Government
MoUs

295
Human
Resources
*including partners

Harit, being a multi-year, ongoing programme, operates across India, encompassing multiple long-term, mid-term and short-term projects under its ambit.



Afforestation and
Habitat
Restoration



Water
Conservation



Animal
Welfare



Environment
Education and
Awareness



Coastal and
Marine
Conservation

The impact so far...



882,699+

native saplings planted



55,027+

human lives impacted



101 B+ liters*

of water harvested



1,034,100+

mangrove and shelter belt saplings planted



117,365+

animal lives impacted



195,119+ kg

ghost nets & marine debris retrieved/ collected

*data till March 2025



The thriving canopy of Harit Upvan Sorkha,
Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh



Afforestation and habitat restoration initiatives

From desolation to diversity

Our initiatives are engineered as science-driven interventions designed to convert ecologically stressed landscapes—from degraded urban voids to fragile Himalayan catchments—into high-functioning biodiversity zones.



The forest is a peculiar organism of unlimited kindness and benevolence that makes no demands for its sustenance and extends generously the products of its life activity.

— Buddha

Overview of systematic afforestation activities and long term maintenance protocols to ensure high sapling survival and canopy development





Through a rigorous scientific framework...

We integrate soil stabilization and micro-habitat creation to address the multifaceted challenges of biodiversity decline. Our thematic approach transcends the goal of merely increasing canopy cover; we focus on facilitating complex water regulation and carbon sequestration processes. By prioritizing invasive species management and water conservation, we ensure that our reconstructed landscapes are self-sustaining—effectively mitigating the impacts of climate change while safeguarding essential ecosystem services for future generations.

The “Source Code” of restoration...

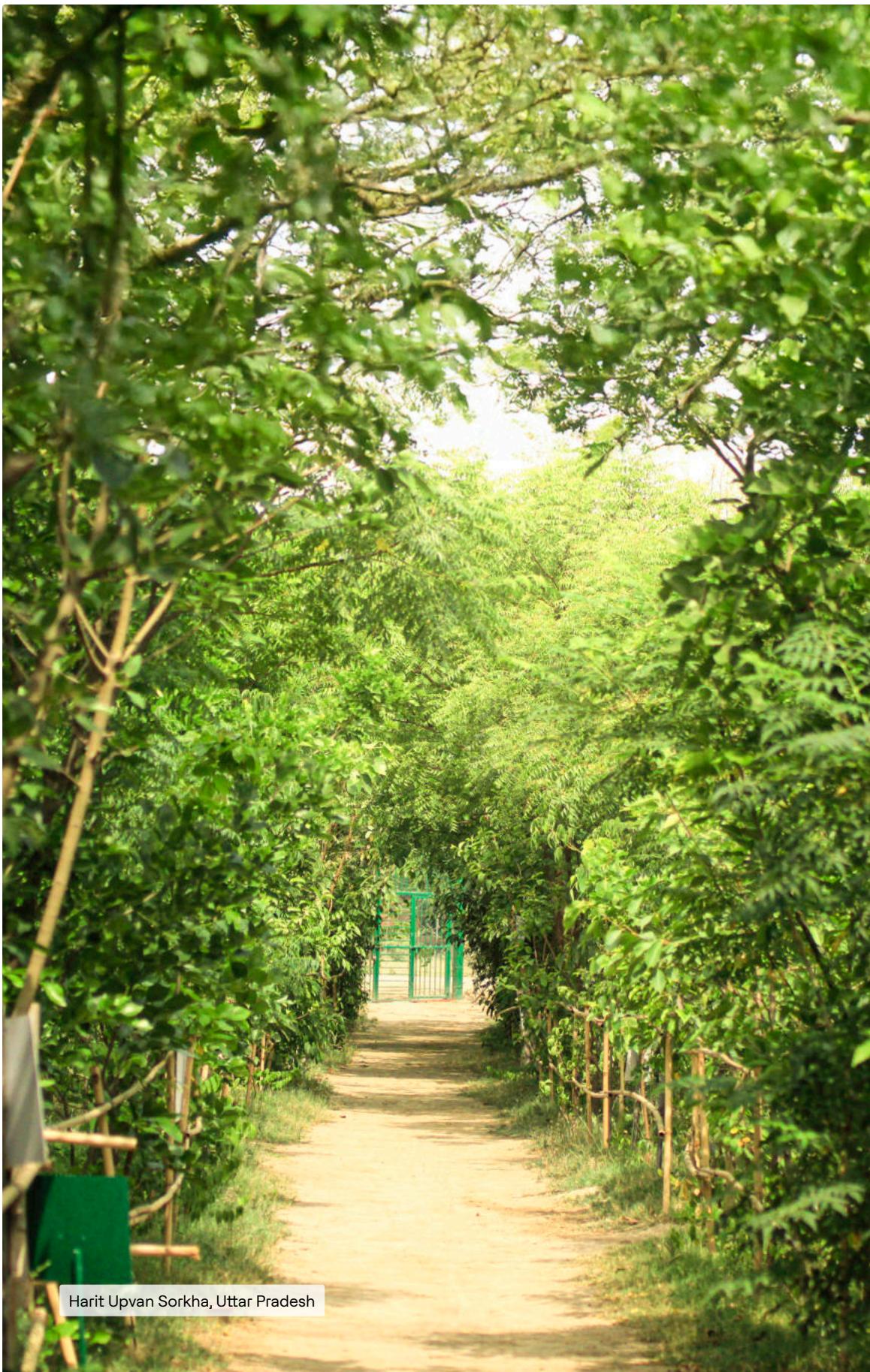
Our framework serves as a high-fidelity “source code” for ecological recovery. By distilling complex silviculture into standardized, science-backed protocols, we have created a modular blueprint that is both geographically agnostic and ecologically precise. Whether applied to urban “lungs” or rural watersheds, the core of our model—comprising rigorous baseline assessments, indigenous species matrices, and survival monitoring—remains consistent, ensuring that success is repeatable rather than incidental.



Green Connector, Lucknow



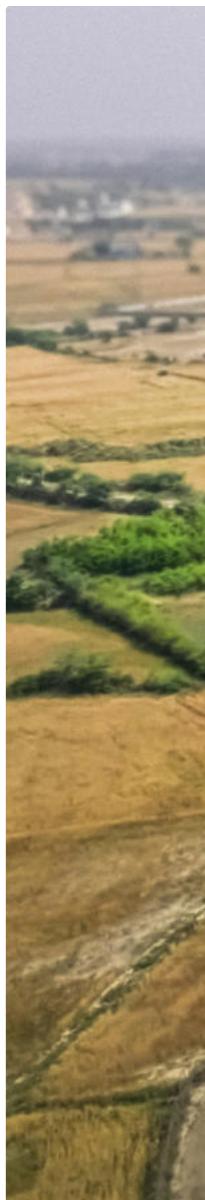
CRPF Campus, Coimbatore



Harit Upvan Sorkha, Uttar Pradesh



Afforested site at Singanallur, Coimbatore





Harit Upvan Amarpur, Uttar Pradesh

Scalability stems from a decentralized strategy...

We provide the technical code while specialized partners supply localized energy. By integrating the reach of government departments, the wisdom of grassroots NGOs, and the rigor of scientific institutions, the initiative bypasses traditional top-down bottlenecks.

To ensure the integrity of these interventions, HCLFoundation employs robust monitoring protocols and seasonal baseline assessments that document the return of local fauna. By empowering field staff and grassroots partners with specialized documentation tools, Harit fosters a culture of environmental stewardship that secures the long-term viability of these newly thriving ecosystems.

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The restoration of the mountain's green mantle is not merely a service to nature, but a debt we pay to the future of our waters and the life they sustain.

— Sunderlal Bahuguna



Afforestation campaign at Badrinath, Uttarakhand



Rudraksha sapling flourishing in the hills of Gopeshwar.



Barking deer, Gopeshwar

Focusing efforts on high-altitudes...

In the districts of Chamoli and Almora, we have prioritized the restoration of native biodiversity, planting saplings of culturally and ecologically significant species such as Rudraksha, Bhojpatra, and Kharsu Oak to fortify these fragile mountain ecosystems.

The initiative preserves both the sacred heritage of mountain communities and the long-term health of the downstream biosphere.



Women leading Harit Upvan maintenance, Amarpara, GBN



Madurai women watering the afforestation site.

Empowering the custodians of conservation...

By integrating traditional knowledge with conservation science, Harit roots restoration in the region's social fabric. Women drive this transformation as the definitive custodians of these emerging ecosystems. Occupying specialized leadership roles in nursery logistics, soil health, and monitoring, they act as socio-environmental catalysts. Under Harit, this gender-inclusive model ensures that as women nurture the land, they gain significant economic agency and social recognition, creating a self-sustaining cycle of resilience.



The flourishing Adavi site
at MKU, Madurai



When the roots of
a community are deep,
**no wind can shake the
forest they guard.**



Oriental Garden Lizard



Grasshopper nymph



Black stream glider



Indian Scorpion



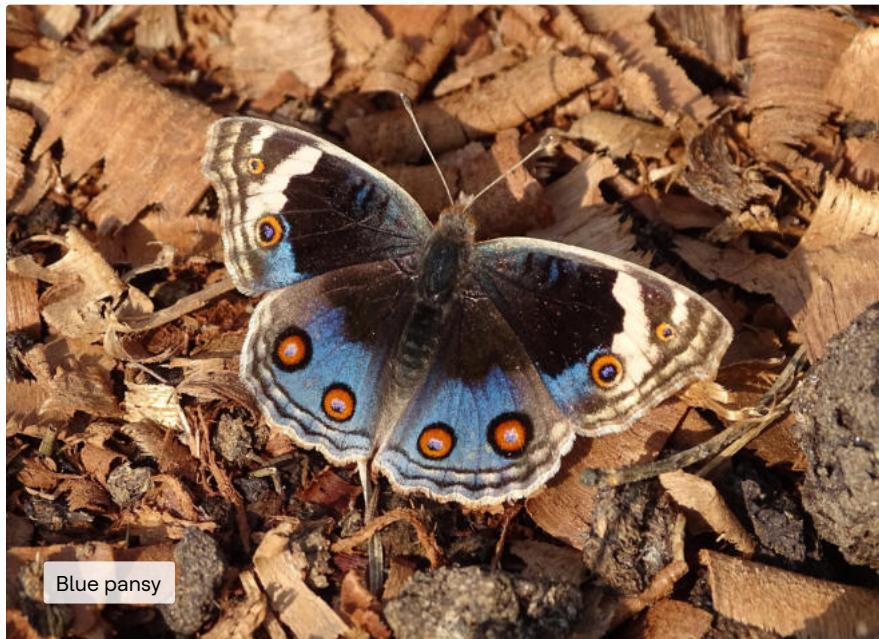
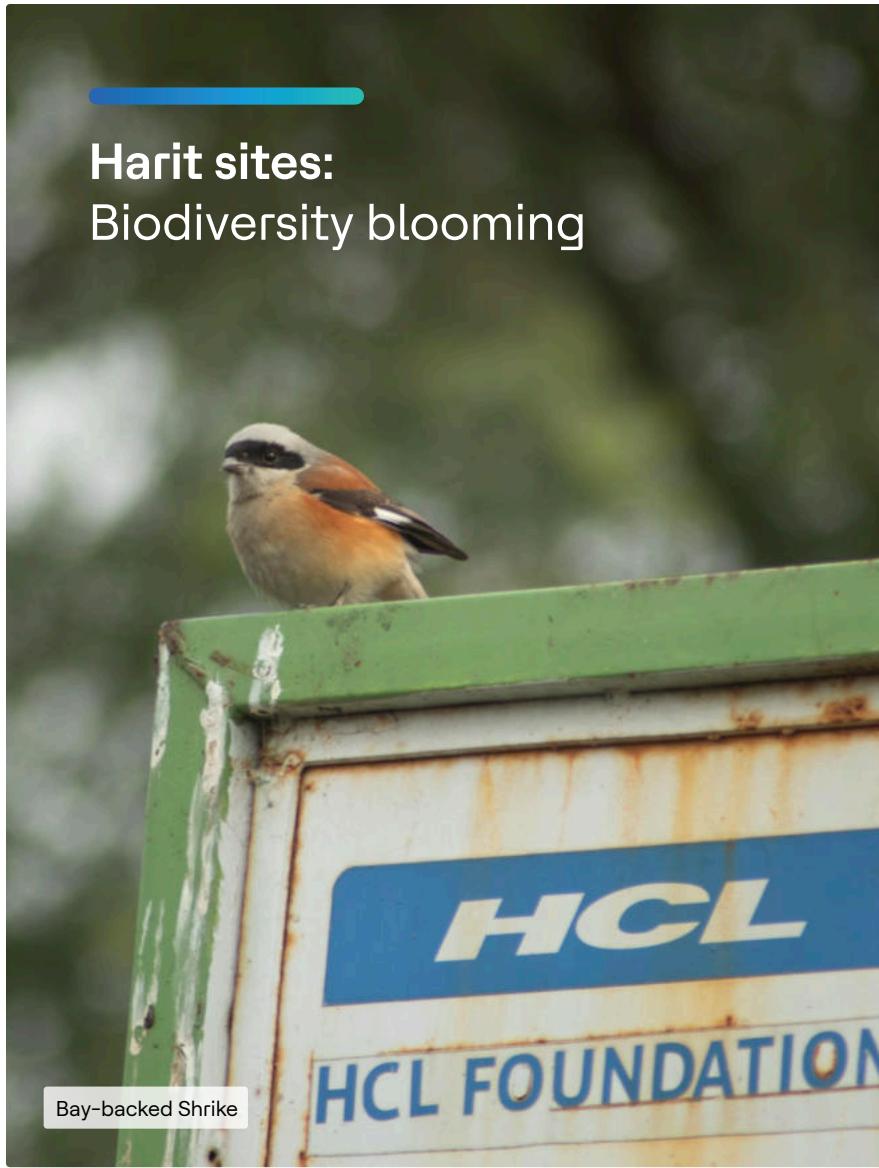
Insect hotel at Atal Harit Upvan, Uttar Pradesh

Scientific interventions for ecological connectivity and habitat enrichment...

Structures including insect hotels, bird nests, and perch towers, foster a self-sustaining ecosystem by providing refuge for diverse species and attracting natural predators for pest control. By integrating bee boxes, mud-puddling stations, and nectar-rich pollinator patches, secures vital resources for beneficial insects, directly boosting the pollination services essential for soil health and vegetation recovery.

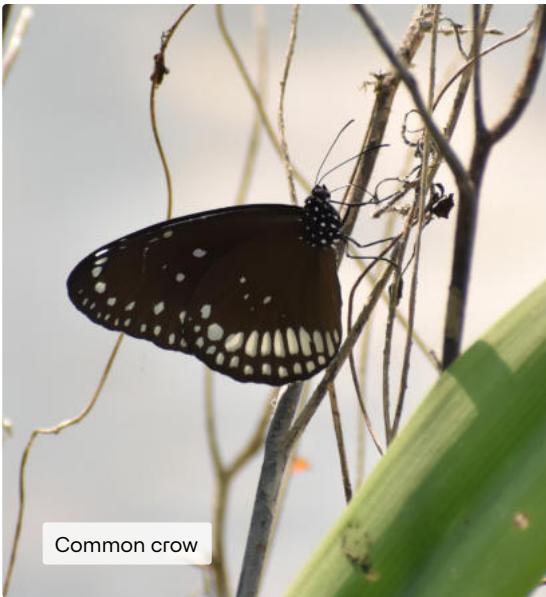
Collectively, these tailored microhabitats strengthen food webs and facilitate seed dispersal, accelerating native biodiversity growth and long-term landscape resilience.

Harit sites: Biodiversity blooming





Great eggfly



Common crow



Danaid eggfly



Lime butterfly



Common grass yellow



Tawny coster



Painted Lady

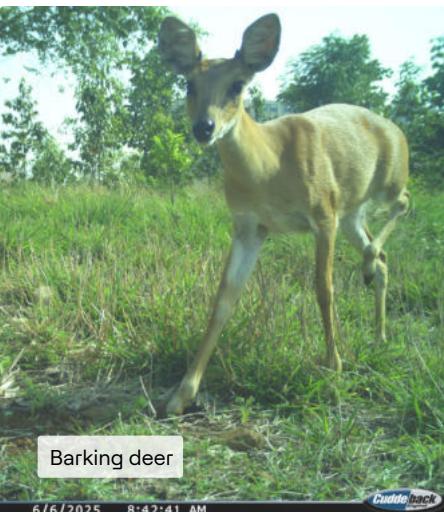


Peacock pansy



Pioneer butterfly





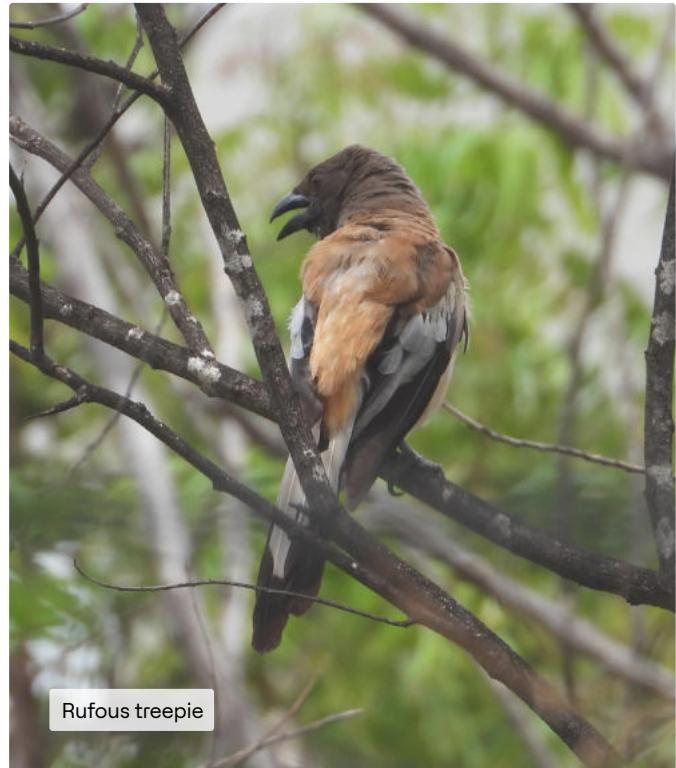
Biodiversity monitoring through camera trapping...

To evaluate the success of habitat restoration, camera trapping is utilised as a non-invasive monitoring tool to document faunal diversity and activity patterns.

Strategic placement of camera traps across habitat patches, water sources, and movement corridors allows for spatial analysis of wildlife use. This helps identify emerging wildlife pathways and assess the effectiveness of restored areas in enhancing landscape connectivity.



Pied bushchat



Rufous treepie



Cinereous tit



Jungle babbler



Indian peafowl

SAVE EARTH,

SAVE RESOURCES



SAVE WATER,
SAVE LIFE,
EVERY DROP
COUNTS!



PROTECT TREES.
PROTECT FUTURE.



GREEN TODAY
LIVE TOMORROW!

BE A HERO -
CONSERVE WHAT NATURE
GIVES US.

USE ENERGY WISELY
BRIGHTEN TOMORROW.
NOT WASTE TODAY!

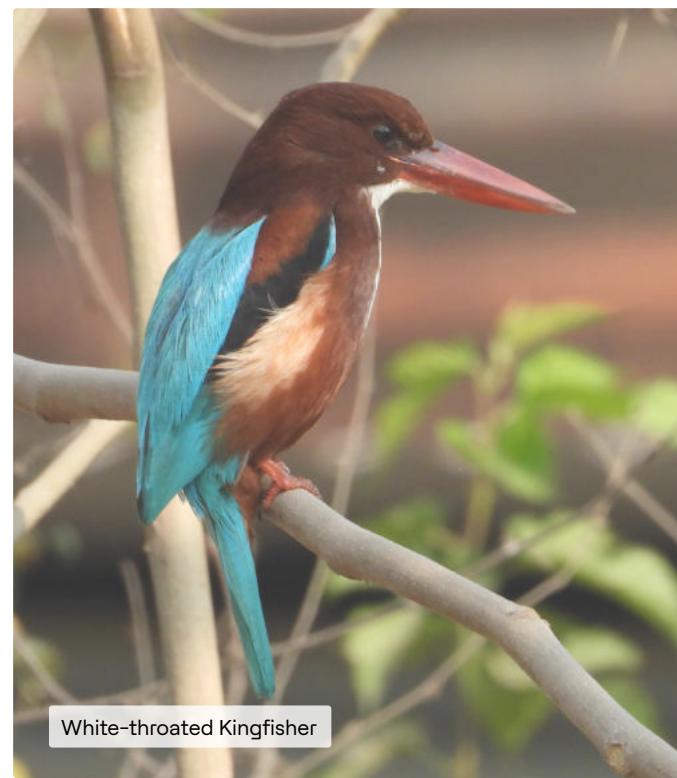


हमारे हर 3 निव

नहीं तो
दवाना
नहीं !

प्राकृतिक वस्तुओं की दरक्षा करें अपने भविष्य की दरक्षा करें।







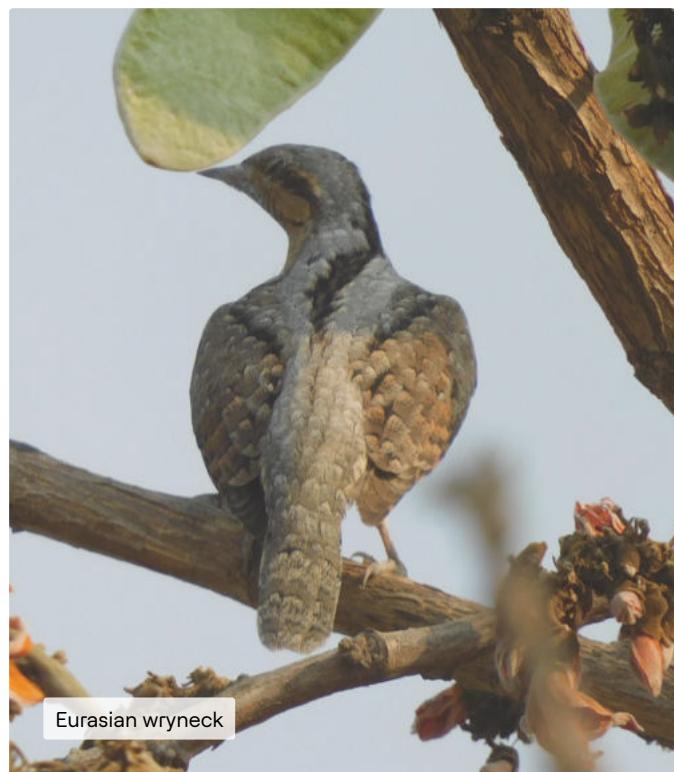
Golden oriole



Himalayan black-lored tit



Asian green bee-eater



Eurasian wryneck



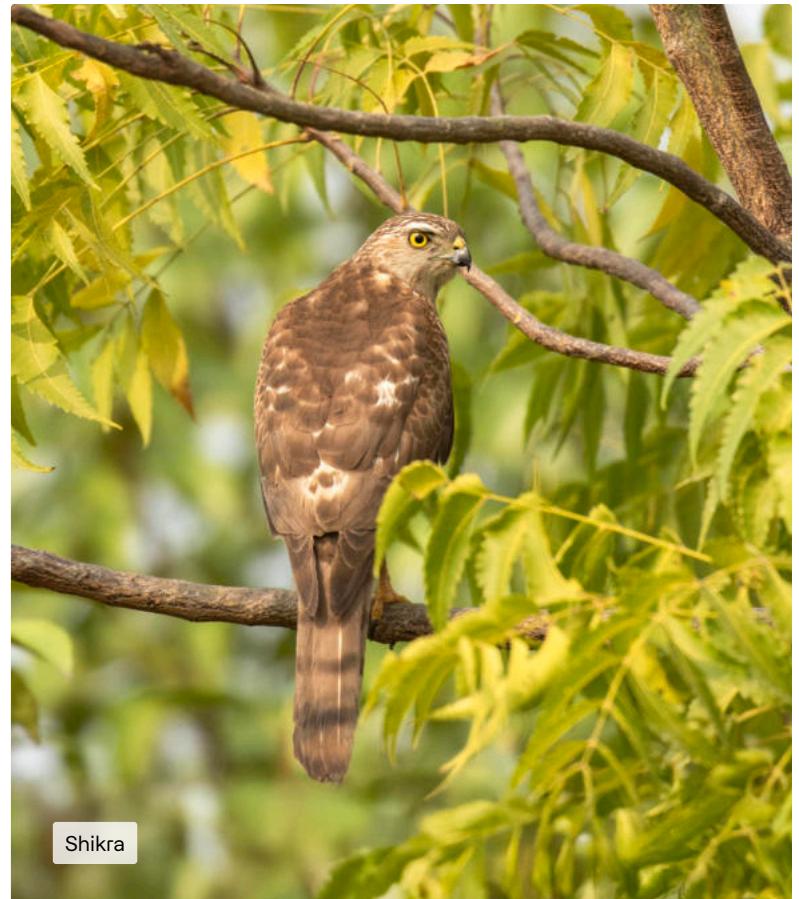
Great Grey Shrike



a pair of Eurasian Griffon



Egyptian Vulture



Shikra



Black Kite



Black shouldered kite



Spotted owlet



Nilgai, Upralsi, GBN



Blackbuck, Upralsi, GBN



Herd of Blackbuck, Upralsi, GBN

Expanding impact and ecosystem resilience...

We deliver nature-positive interventions that systematically restore habitat quality and ecological connectivity. By scaling the afforestation of native, culturally significant species, the initiative ensures robust site protection and high sapling survival rates across diverse landscapes.





Restored waterbody - *Chauki ki pokhar*,
Randhpura, Rajasthan



Our comprehensive water conservation initiatives

From scarcity to sustainability

Water conservation serves as the structural core of Harit, functioning as a vital conduit for dignity, livelihood security, and enduring resilience across Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka. In an era of pronounced climate volatility and receding groundwater tables, the programme prioritises the revitalisation of aquatic ecosystems through the restoration of waterbodies.

Our goal is to improve water availability, revive ecosystems, conserve native flora and fauna, and create habitats for birds. The initiative strengthens community capacity and ownership, enabling better management of water structures, reduced wastewater inflows, and improved sanitation and hygiene in surrounding villages.



Water is the nectar of life;
to protect it is to protect the
very soul of our land.

— Mahatma Gandhi



Initial state of water bodies,
Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh

A blueprint for restoration...

Across diverse Indian landscapes, once-thriving waterbodies have succumbed to systemic neglect, characterized by heavy siltation and the encroachment of plastic and effluent waste.

The Harit framework addresses these complexities through a rigorous, three-tier conservation model designed for enduring impact. Following intensive technical assessments, the intervention phase restores natural waterbodies through desilting and the engineering of silt chambers and D-structures. By integrating constructed wetlands and bird islands, the initiative simultaneously fortifies local biodiversity.

This structural transformation is anchored by community-led water user groups, ensuring that traditional wisdom and modern stewardship converge to maintain these rejuvenated assets as self-sustaining ecosystems.



Synthesizing nature into water systems...

Water Conservation relies on the integration of Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) to bolster ecosystem resilience and improved quality of water. By mimicking natural filtration processes, the Harit initiative employs D-Chambers and silt traps as biological pre-treatment systems to intercept sediments and debris.

This structural precision is complemented by the creation of Bird Islands— that catalyse the return of migratory species and restore ecological equilibrium.

To further augment water quality, advanced biotechnologies such as Nano Bubblers elevate dissolved oxygen levels, accelerating the biological breakdown of pollutants. This is reinforced by constructed wetlands and phytoremediation, where specialised flora and microorganisms filter effluents and absorb excess nutrients.

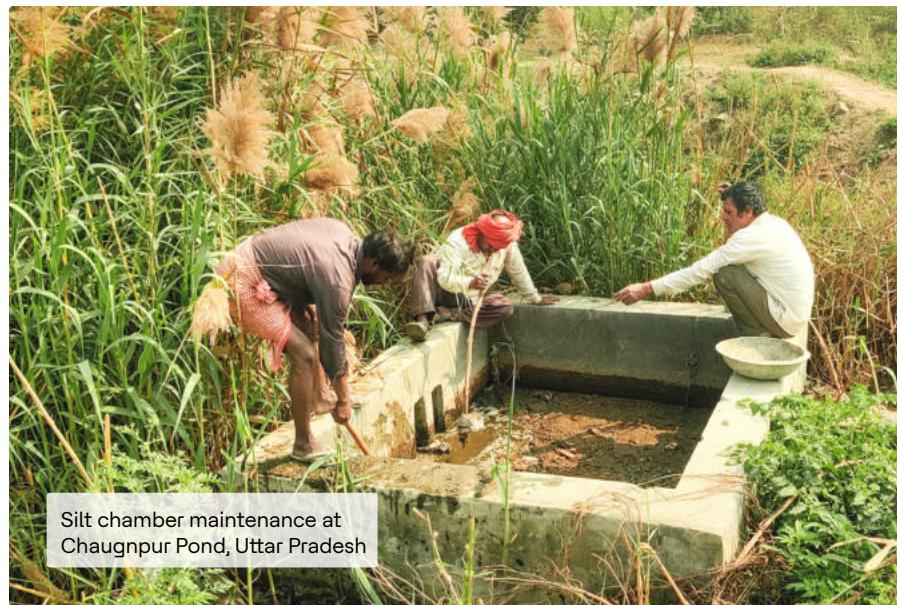
These synergistic interventions prove that aligning engineered infrastructure with natural processes creates low-maintenance, high-impact models for self-sustaining waterbodies and environmental health.



Water is the mirror that reflects the health of our planet; to heal the water is to heal the world.



Sustainable D-structure formation utilizing jute bags, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh



Silt chamber maintenance at Chaugnpur Pond, Uttar Pradesh



D-structure reinforcement using jute-bags at Rauni Pond, Uttar Pradesh



Site maintenance and upkeep at Rampur Majra, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh



Aerial progress footage during restoration
at Milak Lachchhi Pond, Gautam Buddha Nagar





Ongoing rejuvenation works at Waranga Pond,
Nagpur, Maharashtra

Ecological restoration of the reclaimed Waranga waterbody...

The restoration of Nagpur's Waranga waterbody is a triumph of ecological reclamation. To reverse severe siltation, we implemented precision desilting, bund reinforcement, and systematic inflow channel treatment. These measures successfully optimised the site's water holding capacity, enabling a total holding capacity of 43,166,800 litres.

Beyond storage expansion, this comprehensive approach expanded storage and revitalized water quality, transforming the two-acre expanse into a high-functioning biodiversity hub. Now attracting migratory fauna, the revived Waranga serves as a vital asset for groundwater recharge and a benchmark for regional climate resilience.

ff

A lake is the landscape's most beautiful and expressive feature;
it is earth's eye, looking into which the beholder measures the depth of his own nature.

— Henry David Thoreau



Aerial view of Waranga Pond after rejuvenation,
Nagpur, Maharashtra

The power of community water management...

Madurai is revitalizing its traditional *Ooranis* to bolster water security and ecological balance. Through a community-led initiative supported by HCLFoundation and DHAN Foundation, the 4.53-acre Surakulam Kanmoi has been restored, achieving a water-holding capacity of 2,700,000 liters.

Central to this effort is the Surakulam Kanmoi Vayalaga Pathukappu Sangam, a local institution established to ensure participatory governance. The group operates a bank account, raising amount through fixed deposits and endowment funds for long-term maintenance, engaging stakeholders.

Strategic desilting reinforced the bunds, while new inlet works now channel water from the Periyar Main Canal. By integrating institutional structure with community engagement, this project enhances groundwater recharge and biodiversity, serving as a model for resilient, sustainable water resource management.



Surakulam Kanmoi aerial perspective at Madurai, Tamil Nadu





Percolation pond project at the CRPF campus in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu



Double ring infiltrometer training session at Waranga waterbody in Maharashtra



Conducting water quality tests at Sidhipur Pond, Uttar Pradesh

Validating restoration with rigorous science...

Scientific rigour underpins every Harit intervention, transitioning water management to evidence based data driven stewardship. Through comprehensive hydrological assessments, HCLFoundation quantifies the water balance of rejuvenated waterbodies with exacting precision. Surface water loss is meticulously tracked via pan evaporation meters, while infiltration rates—critical for assessing groundwater recharge potential—are determined using double ring infiltrometers. To monitor the long term impact on subterranean aquifers, digital water level loggers and sounders provide continuous data, ensuring that every drop conserved contributes measurably to regional water security.

In parallel, the initiative maintains a sophisticated water quality surveillance protocol to combat chemical and biological degradation. Utilising advanced on site analytical kits, the programme generates real time telemetry for essential parameters, including pH, dissolved oxygen (DO), and total dissolved solids (TDS). By monitoring electrical conductivity and oxidation reduction potential (ORP), Harit ensures that restored waterbodies meet the highest standards of ecological health. This analytical framework provides the empirical evidence required to validate restoration efforts and sustain the delicate equilibrium of these vital aquatic ecosystems.





Securing the future of Chauganpur Pond through local conservation in Greater Noida

A visual mosaic of water security across Uttar Pradesh...





Groundbreaking ceremony for the waterbody rejuvenation project at Chikna, Nagpur



Community led planning for waterbody rejuvenation in Karauli, Rajasthan

Role of grassroots governance in sustainable water stewardship...

Anchoring ecological restoration in participatory governance, transforms local residents into long-term stewards of their water assets. By establishing formal Water Users' Associations (like Jal-Chaupals) and village-level committees, the programme integrates traditional knowledge with modern conservation goals. This institutional structure ensures that communities are not mere beneficiaries, but active decision-makers in the planning and execution of rejuvenation projects.



Ongoing pond restoration works in Madurai, Tamil Nadu



Discussing waterbody challenges with the local community, Rajasthan

Through targeted awareness campaigns...

Stakeholders are brought together through two way dialogues on the interconnectedness of local aquifers and the long-term impacts of their water footprint. This cognitive shift discourages waste and ensures that behavioral change serves as a permanent foundation for sustainable resource management.

By shifting the perspective from private ownership to collective responsibility, the programme fosters a culture of conservation.



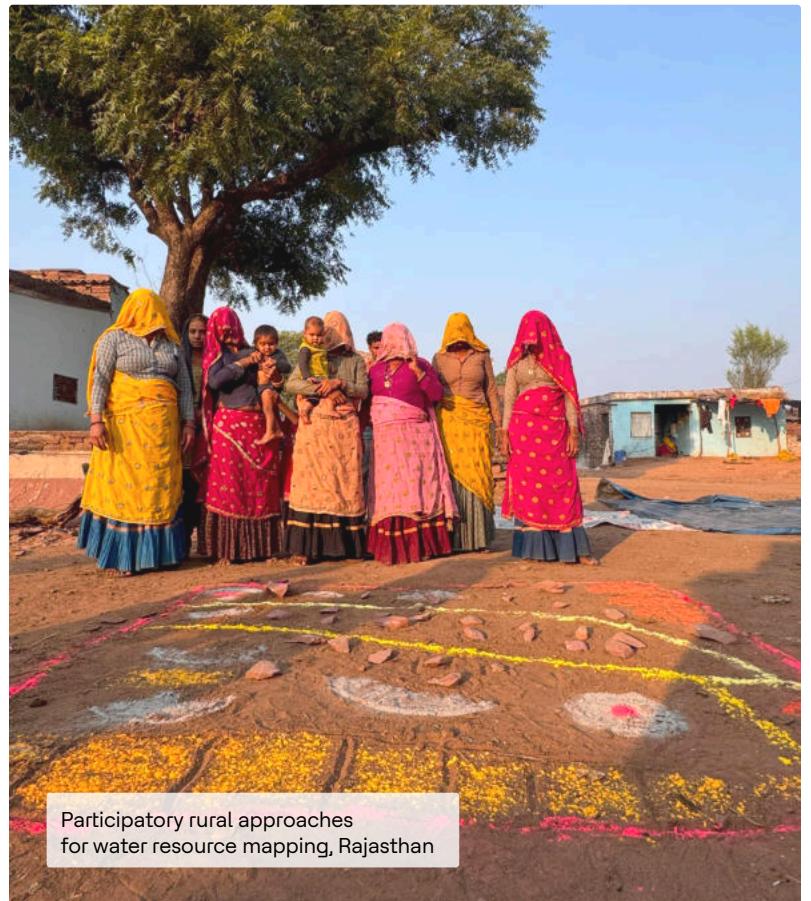
Community led traditional ceremony at Nila Orani, Madurai



Creative advocacy and cultural revitalization...

These localized campaigns—
from *Humare Talab Humari Pehchan* in
Gautam Buddh Nagar to *Our Pond Our Responsibility* in
Tamil Nadu—transform awareness into a high-energy
shared movement. By utilizing Participatory Rural
Appraisal (PRA) mapping, communities move beyond
observation to actively rediscover lost water bodies and
lead future planning.

Through *Pani Ki Pathshala*, water rallies, and technical
training, complex hydrological concepts are translated
into accessible community knowledge. Creative tools
like *Bal Samvads*, puppet shows, and *nukkad nataks*
leverage storytelling to bridge generational gaps, while
traditional Water *Yatras* reinvigorate the cultural spirit
of collective responsibility.



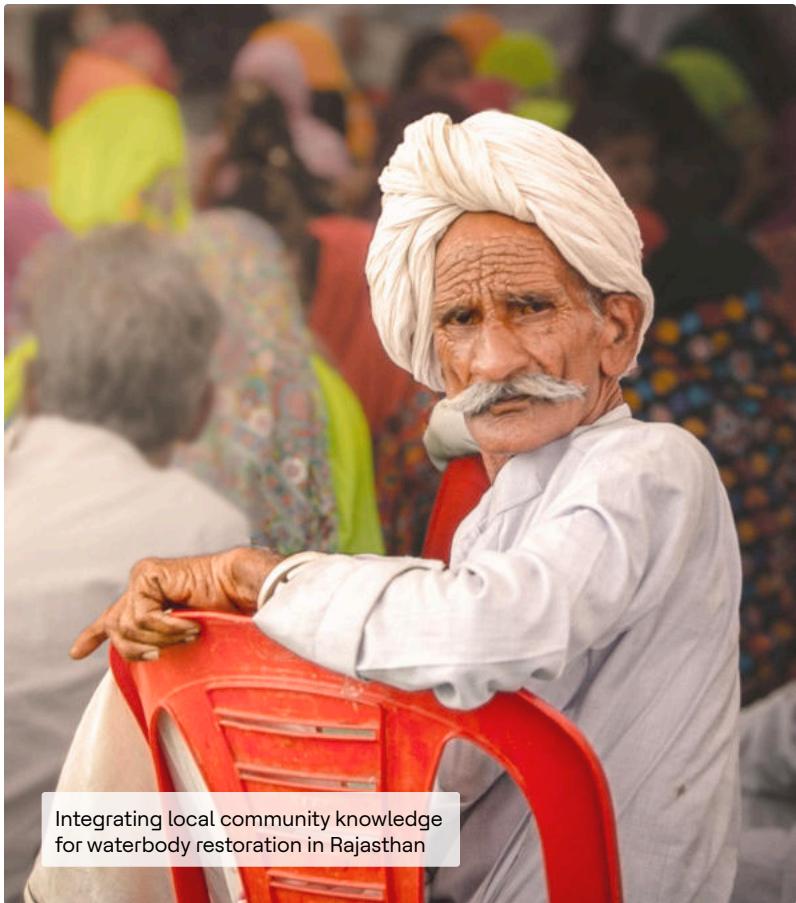
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We have not inherited
this earth from our forefathers;
**we have borrowed it
from our children.**

— Haida Proverb



Cheerful kids from the Harit Club at
the Police Lines pond, Uttar Pradesh





'Hamari Talaab Hamari Pehchaan' -
fostering community water ownership in GBN

Scaling water security through the Harit blueprint...

We have transformed water conservation into a scalable, community-led movement. By synthesising scientific restoration with the lived wisdom of local stakeholders. This inclusive model ensures that every intervention—from technical desilting to nature-based filtration—is sustained by a cross-generational commitment to stewardship.



Conducting a community anti rabies vaccination drive, Tamil Nadu



Our animal welfare initiatives

From conflict to coexistence

Through every rescued life, vaccinated paw, and shared moment of care, we tell a story of compassion in action. Guided by the approach of improving and sustaining a positive human-animal relationship while focusing on both short term (stress reduction) and long term (stress resilience), we nurture peaceful coexistence between people and animals, strengthening communities through humane care, rabies prevention, responsible practices, and wildlife protection.



Anti rabies vaccination initiative
in Uttar Pradesh



Anti Rabies Vaccination camp
in Gautam Buddha Nagar



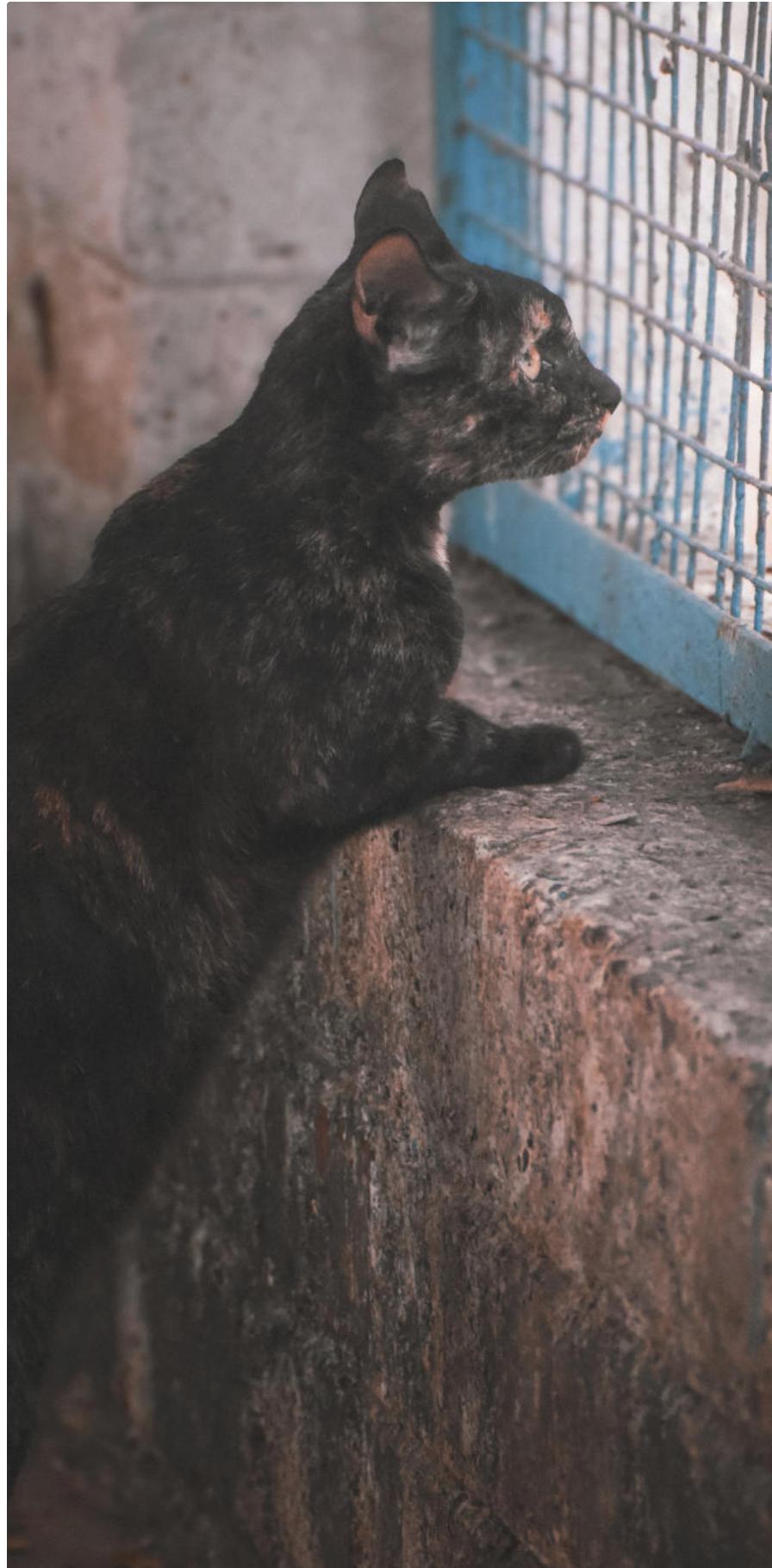
Conducting a community anti rabies
vaccination drive at Coimbatore

Building safer communities through rabies prevention...

We drive anti-rabies vaccination as a vital step in protecting both people and animals, towards Eradication of Dog Mediated Rabies. By working across communities and systems, we strengthen collective immunity and reinforce the shared responsibility of building healthier, safer environments for all.



“Every vaccination brings us closer to a healthier world—where people, animals and ecosystems thrive together.”



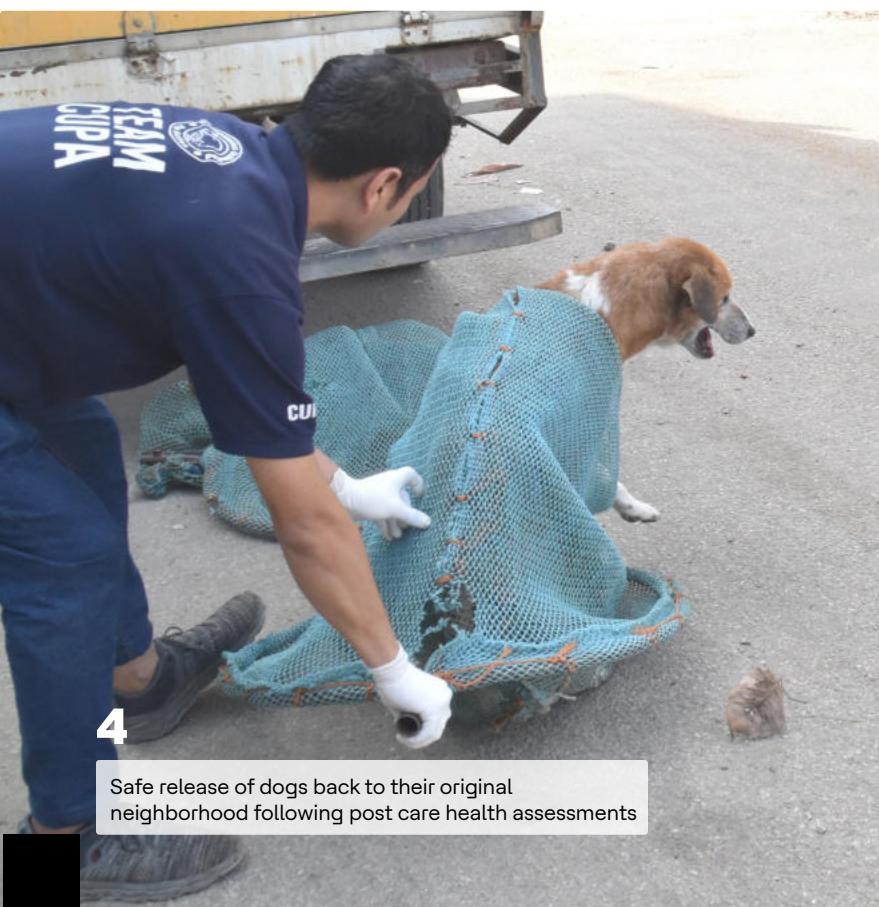
ABC in action: The sequence





Safeguarding community animals...

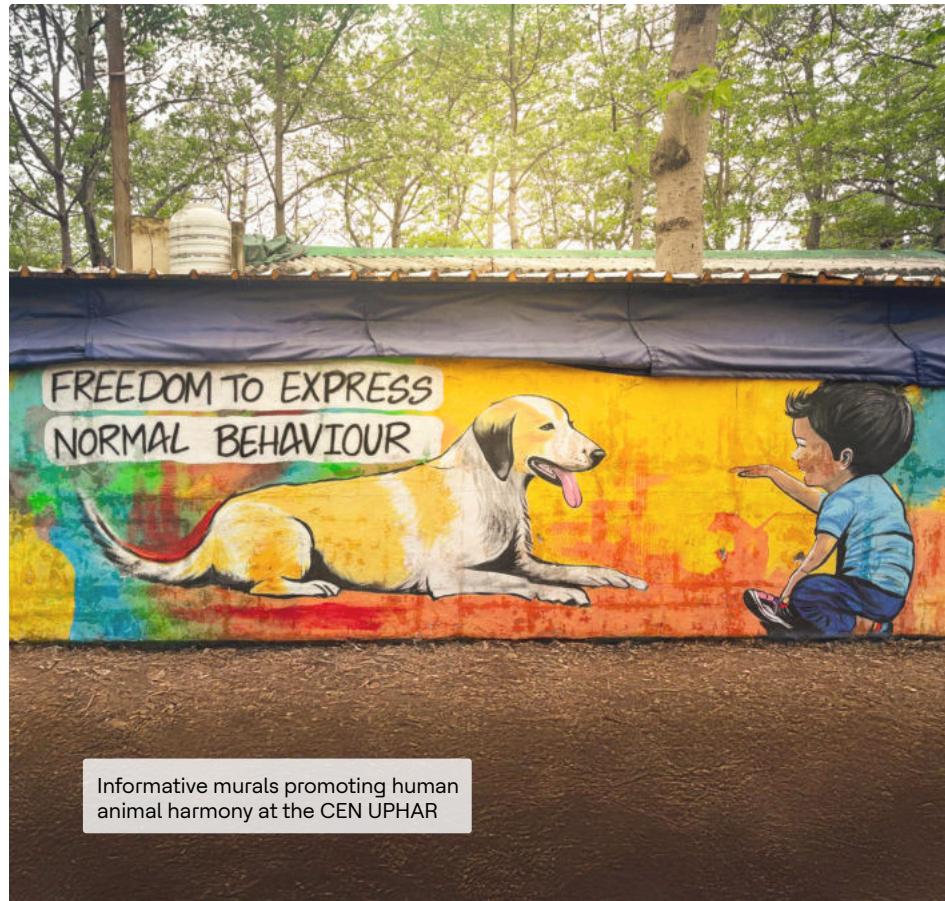
We drive a holistic, science-based approach to protect, care for, and enhance the well-being and safety of community animals, integrating humane practices with scientific population management to ensure sustainable coexistence.



Safe release of dogs back to their original neighborhood following post care health assessments



State of the art medical and awareness facility,
CEN-UPHAR center in Greater Noida



Strengthening human-animal coexistence...

Center for Upholding Human Animal Relationship stands as a model facility under a PPP model with Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority for implementing best practices in animal birth control and compassionate care, strengthening the human - animal bond through humane, sustainable action.



Bonnet Macaque



Indian cobra



Spotted Owlet

Addressing threats to urban wildlife...

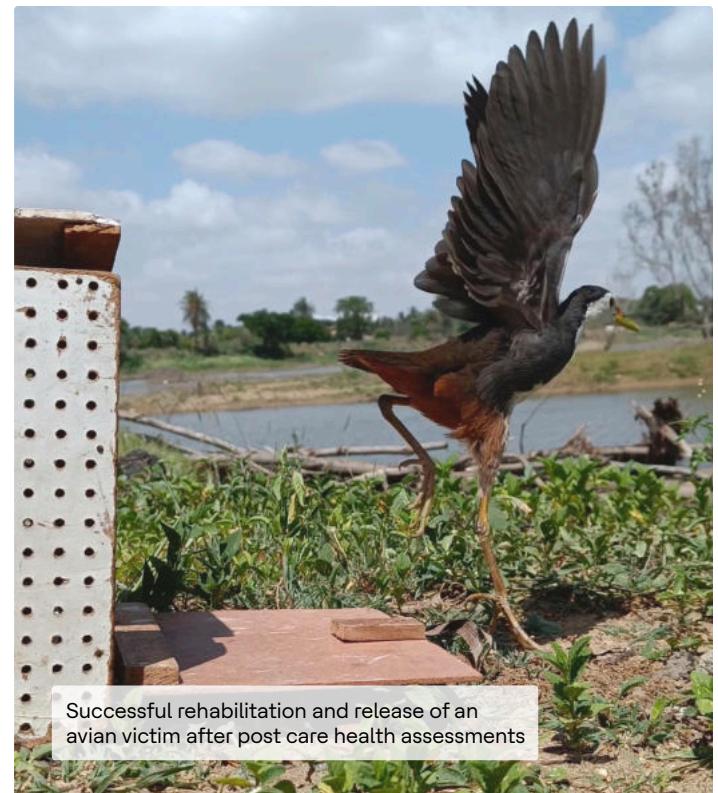
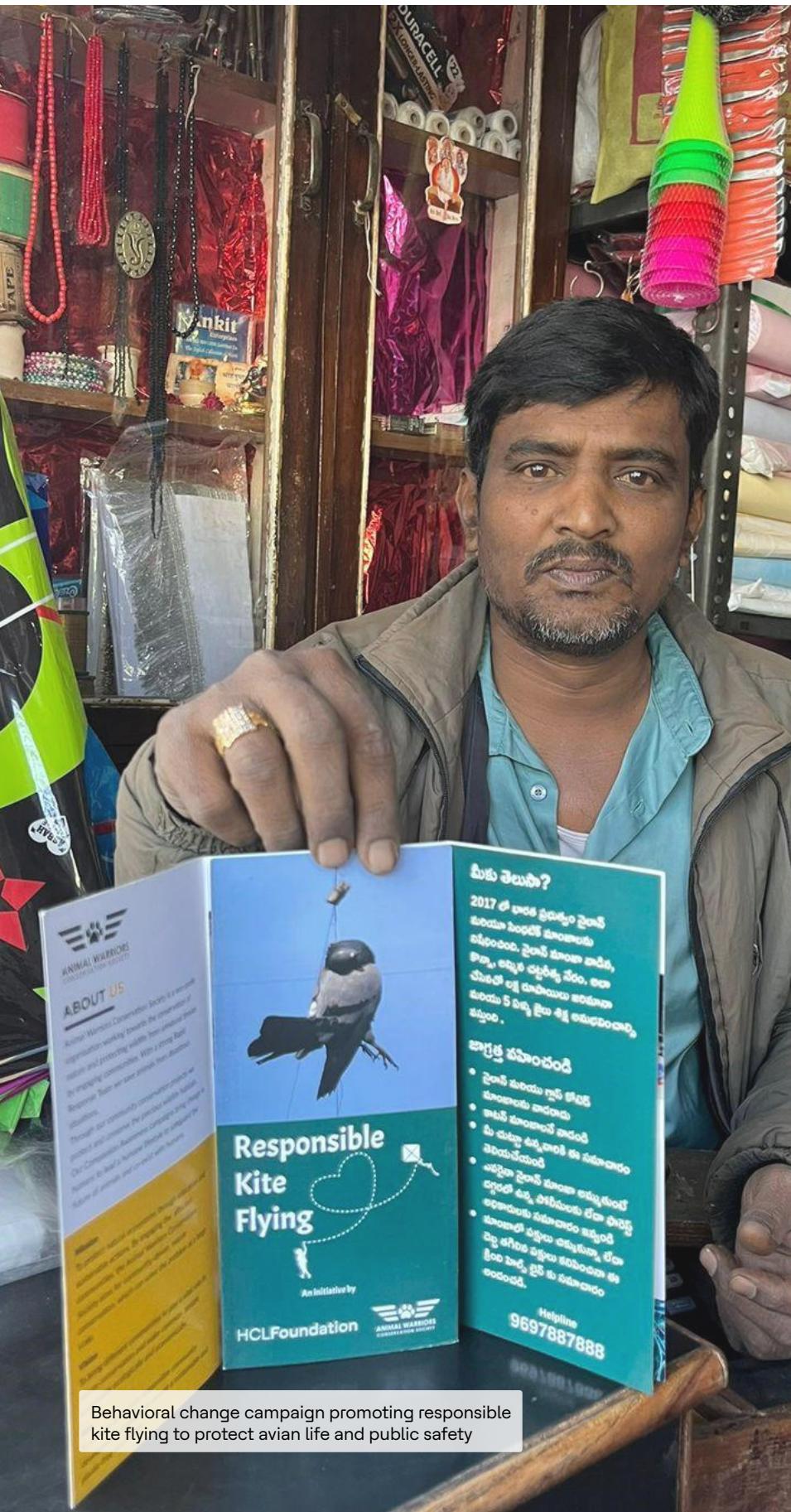
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Each rescue becomes a story of hope, learning, and connection.



Selender loris



Making sustainable choices...

We work through the lifecycle of deadly Synthetic Manjha affecting humans and birds alike. From sensitization of sellers to bringing communities to practice safer methods and mitigating negative impacts through rescue and rehabilitation, the responsible kite flying campaign ensure safer skies



Street awareness campaign promoting responsible kite flying and the risks of manjha to avian life and public safety

Coexisting with care...



...because real conservation
doesn't end at rescue,
it begins with awareness!



Capacity building and awareness sessions conducted for local stakeholders in Bengaluru



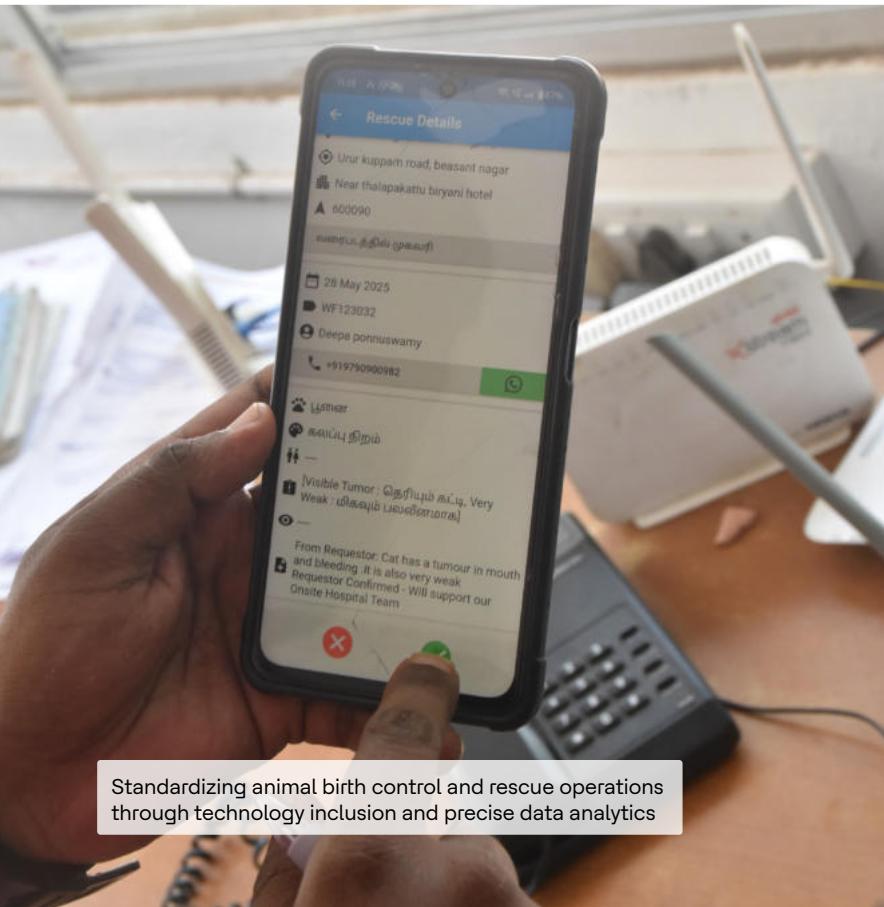
When people and wildlife cross paths...

From cities to forests, people are increasingly encountering wildlife in their daily lives. Our work focuses on simple awareness through conversations, stories, visuals, and on-ground engagement so these moments are met with care and safety.



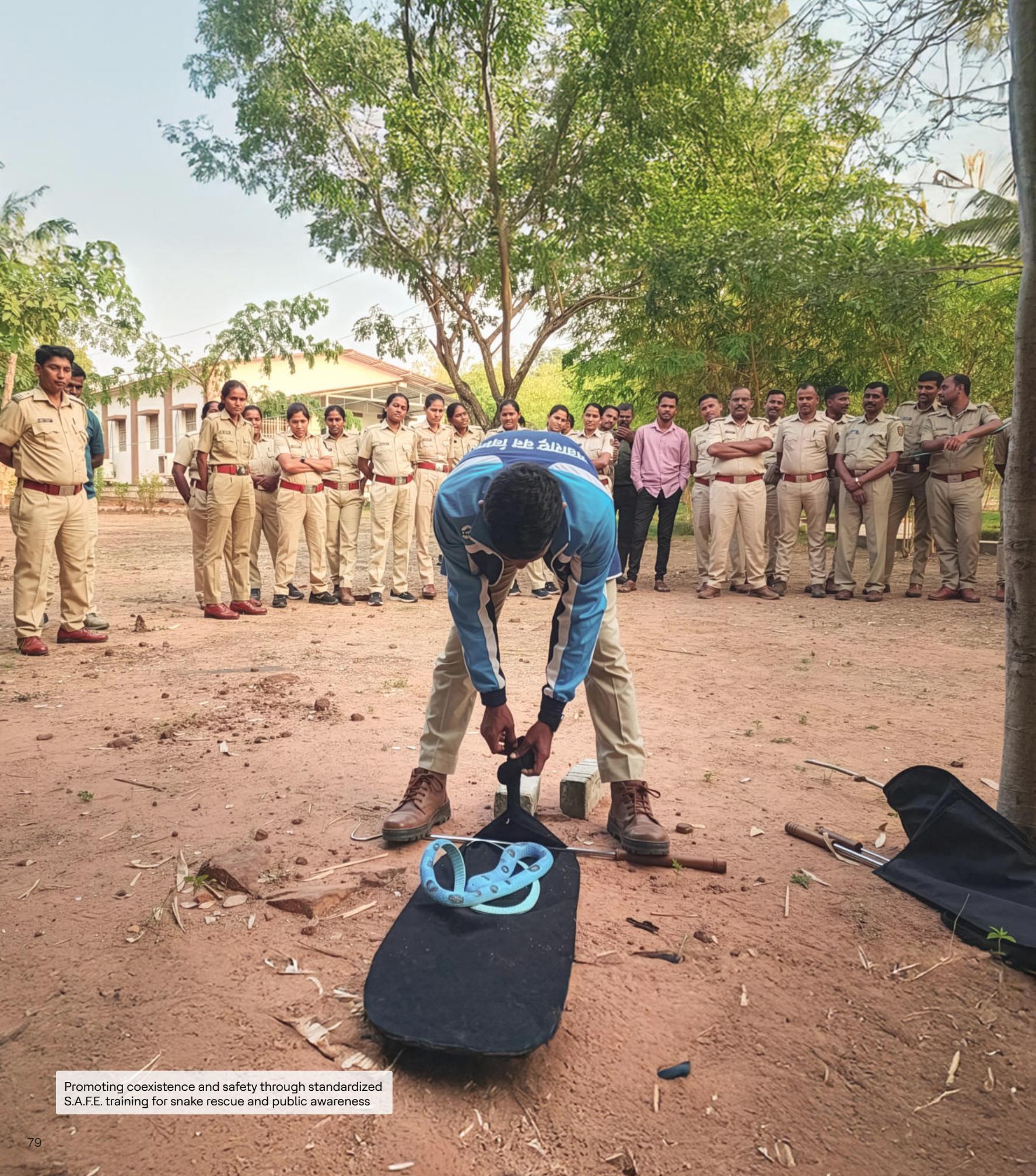
Rapid response for animals in crisis...

We rescue animals affected by disasters—providing rapid evacuation, first aid, and on-the-spot treatment to stabilize injured or distressed animals. Our swift emergency response saves lives, supports faster recovery, and strengthens community readiness for humane, effective action during crises. All these interventions driven through technology.





On site veterinary treatment and emergency rescue services through the mobile ambulance network in Chennai



Promoting coexistence and safety through standardized
S.A.F.E. training for snake rescue and public awareness



Creating safer and more aware communities...

From fear to understanding, our SAFE (Snake Awareness for Everyone) workshops help communities and stakeholders learn, stay safe, and coexist with snakes confidently.



Note: The snake shown is a plastic model. No live snakes were used in the SAFE workshop.



Shaping compassionate mindsets...

We adopt a structured, evidence-led approach to nurture humane attitudes and informed behaviours that advance animal welfare, ensure community safety, and enable sustainable coexistence between people and animals.



Compassion begins with understanding—and grows through action that protects every life.



Strategic use of street plays to disseminate critical rabies awareness and prevention protocols within local communities



GenCAN students exploring nature during a camp in Pachmarhi.



Environment education and awareness initiatives

From observation to ownership

The framework of Environmental Education and Awareness (EEA) serves as a cornerstone of the Harit philosophy, operating as a holistic conduit for understanding, experiencing, and advocating for the natural world. Prioritising the delivery of contextual and practically relevant educational resources ensures that knowledge is not merely transferred but is transformed into a potent tool for building resilient, self-sustaining ecosystems.

This journey is architected to empower stakeholders to LEARN the complexities of environmental science, EXPLORE the nuances of local ecological challenges, and ENGAGE in the collaborative design of indigenous solutions. This cognitive evolution culminates in the resolve to ACT decisively within immediate surroundings, ultimately fostering a new generation of LEADERSHIP capable of driving collective environmental excellence.



Small acts, multiplied by millions, transform the world.

— Howard Zinn



Restored Waterbody - Chauki ki pokhar,
Randhpura, Rajasthan

Abhishek Shadman



Students exploring Harit Khabar newsletter in Madurai, Tamil Nadu



Harit Club students in a group activity, Patel Park, Chennai



Students planting trees with self-made compost, Chennai

EEA initiatives drives a paradigm shift...

Rather than treating sustainability as a textbook subject, Harit transforms schools into living laboratories where students tackle real-world challenges. Through the GenCAN leadership challenge and the Green School Programme, youth move beyond the classroom to audit carbon footprints and re-engineer resource management. Creative grassroots interventions—such as the “All You Need Is a Pencil” comic series and “Just Keep Nesting” habitat restoration—ensure that environmental action is accessible, artistic, and community-driven.



Harit Club students showcasing their ecosystem posters in GBN.



Students joining the Web of Life activity, Coimbatore, TN.



GenCAN students sowing seeds for their nutrition garden, Jhargram, West Bengal



Students harvesting greens through the Green School program, Nagpur.



Students learning insect hotel secrets from the "Nest Man", Gautam Buddha Nagar



Madurai students proudly displaying sparrow nests from the workshop.

By transforming the natural world into a living classroom...

Moves beyond rote memorization to foster a space where creativity and curiosity lead the way. Through hands-on experiences—from regeneration projects to biodiversity mapping—students engage in a cycle of trial, reflection, and discovery.

This experiential approach empowers learners to bridge the gap between ecological theory and tangible impact, cultivating a generation of environmentally conscious leaders who don't just study the planet, but actively learn to thrive within its delicate systems.



From classrooms to climate hubs leading the green transformation...

Across schools in Chennai, Greater Noida, and Nagpur, a quiet transformation unfolds daily as traditional classrooms are reimagined into dynamic energy labs. Under the Green School Programme, play areas are repurposed into water conservation zones, while complex waste challenges are tackled through creative, student-led projects.



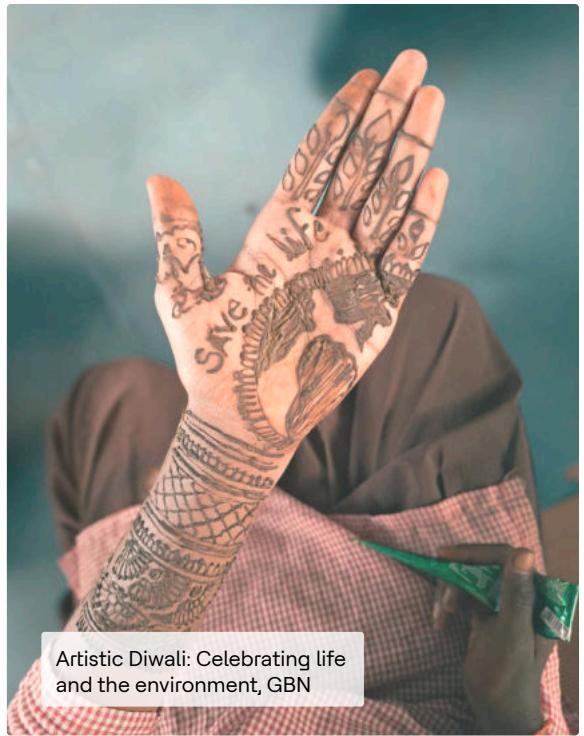
Students collecting dry leaves for compost making under Green School Programme, Nagpur



Students vermicomposting biodegradable waste—the science way!



Chennai students discussing solar energy during an energy audit.



Artistic Diwali: Celebrating life and the environment, GBN



Harit Club students rally for World Wetlands Day, GBN.



Students in Noida leading an awareness campaign for low-carbon living.

By nurturing an eco-conscious and stewardship-driven approach...

The intervention empowers young learners to take the helm of climate mitigation and adaptation efforts. With a rigorous focus on energy, water, and waste management, schools serve as local hubs of sustainability, guiding their wider communities toward a more resilient and greener future.

Empowering tomorrow's guardians...

Across the nation, young learners are reclaiming their future by taking climate action into their own hands. The Generation for Climate Action (GenCAN) is a rigorous national leadership challenge that equips students to transcend theory and drive systemic change. By transforming learners into environmental auditors, the programme enables them to identify ecological inefficiencies and implement life-cycle solutions within their own school ecosystems.

GenCAN does more than teach climate science; it builds a massive national network of young leaders who possess the agency, skills, and resolve to protect and sustain our planet for generations to come.

Across 26 states and Union Territories, the GenCAN movement has mobilised over 4,000 students from 400 schools, turning local action into a national force for good.



GenCAN Student leader in Nayagram conducting a school-wide GenCAN awareness walk.



Students in Bangalore participating in the Youth Innovator programme.

Orchestrating a legacy of environment literacy...

By embedding rigorous climate science into the architectural framework of school communities, the EEA initiative transmutes abstract global challenges into tangible, local responsibilities. These interventions facilitate a transition from passive learning to lived environmentalism, where the school environment itself becomes a microcosm of a sustainable world, nurturing a generation capable of navigating the intricacies of the modern ecological landscape with clarity and scientific rigour.

By introducing globally benchmarked certifications and dynamic youth-led innovation incubators, we are accelerating the emergence of a visionary cadre of leaders, prepared to engineer high-impact solutions for a climate-resilient tomorrow.



To plant a thought is to sow a seed; to nurture an intellect is to cultivate a forest that will never be felled.







Enhancing natural flood barriers through community-led mangrove plantation projects on the Sundarbans river banks



Coastal and marine conservation initiatives

From decay to vitality

The 'Coastal and Marine Conservation' thematic is driving a transformative path to rehabilitate and protect India's diverse maritime ecosystems. Stretching across the nation's 7,500 km coastline, the programme actively addresses critical environmental threats by merging community-led restoration with large-scale ecological interventions.

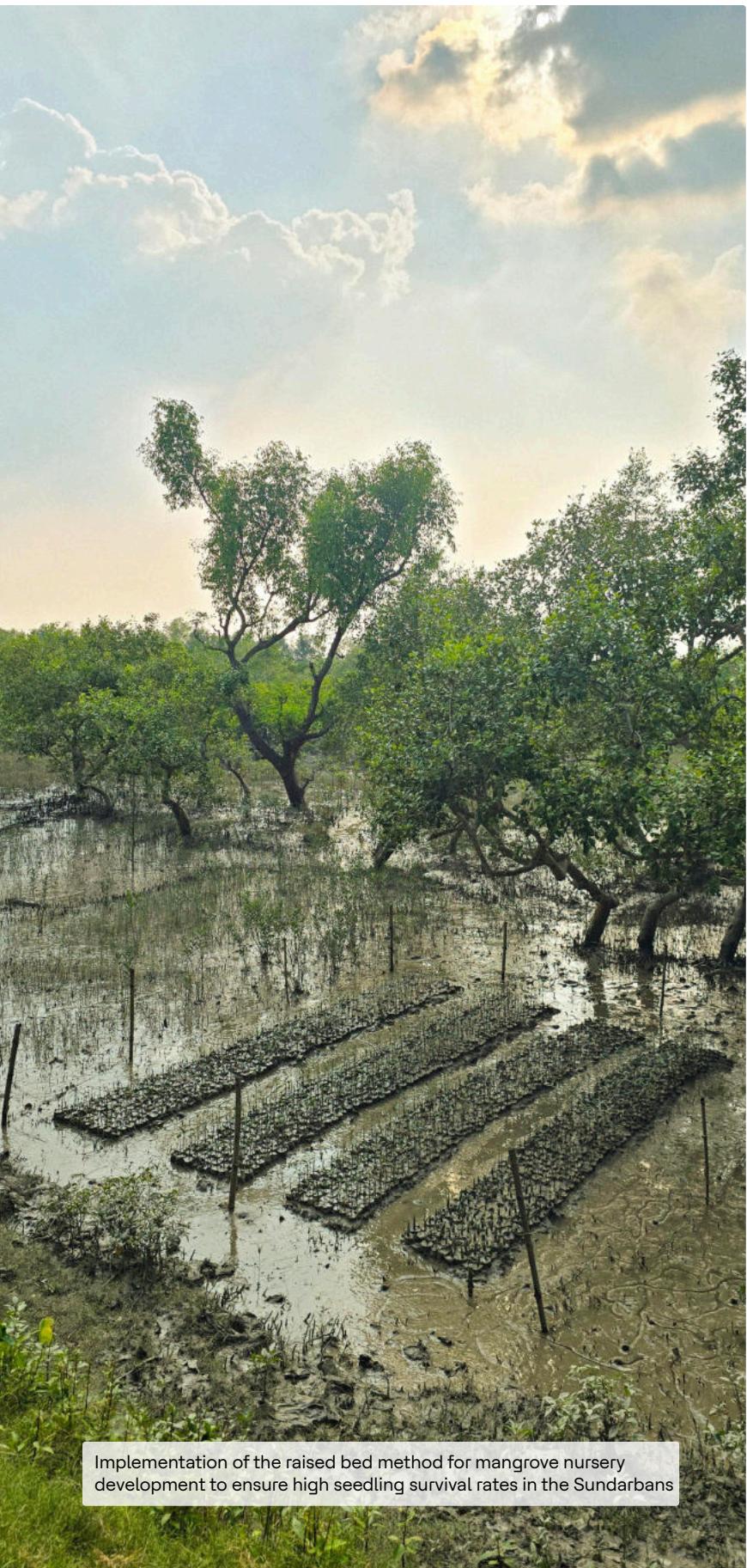
From the restoration of vital mangrove buffers to the systematic removal of lethal ghost nets, HCLFoundation's strategy fuses advanced science and technology with grassroots collaboration. Through strategic partnerships with local authorities and conservation experts, large-scale marine debris removal operations are being executed, most notably India's first ongoing underwater ghost net retrieval in the Gulf of Mannar.

The initiative simultaneously strengthens the "human shield" of the coastlines. By involving local residents in active conservation, providing specialised training, and creating new sustainable livelihood paths, the programme is building resilient coastal communities.



With every drop of water you drink,
every breath you take,
you're connected to the sea.
No matter where on Earth you live.

— Dr Sylvia Earle



Implementation of the raised bed method for mangrove nursery development to ensure high seedling survival rates in the Sundarbans



Collaborative coastal conservation efforts involving community led mangrove sapling plantation in Tamil Nadu



ff

What you do makes a difference,
and you have to decide what kind of
difference you want to make.

— Jane Goodall



Women led conservation groups spearheading mangrove plantation initiatives to strengthen climate resilience in the Sundarbans



Black-hooded oriole



White-breasted Kingfisher



Common Kingfisher



Local stakeholders and youth groups participating in a public awareness march for coastal protection in West Bengal



Where ecology meets empowerment...

Recognising mangroves as the primary frontier against escalating climate disturbances, actively rehabilitates degraded mudflats and tidal zones through a community-integrated, women-led model. This initiative fundamentally reshapes the socio-economic fabric of coastal villages by empowering local women to serve as "Guardians of the Tides."

From managing specialised nurseries to the precise planting of young saplings in challenging intertidal terrains, their leadership ensures the restoration of these vital blue carbon ecosystems.



Blue-spotted Mudskipper



Fiddler crab



Pacific Golden Plover

Strengthening the green shield...

To bolster long-term coastal resilience, we spearheaded an extensive replanting initiative to restore shelterbelts thinned by natural loss. This effort was driven entirely by the community, who took ownership of the vital work—from seed collection and nursery management to meticulous pruning.

Through rigorous, continuous monitoring, these plantations have matured into formidable “living walls” that serve as a natural frontline, safeguarding coastal villages from the encroaching sea.



Post-plantation growth of mangrove saplings in Chinnagollapalem, Andhra Pradesh



Maintenance of shelterbelt saplings on the in Chinnagollapalem, Andhra Pradesh



Systematic replacement of shelterbelt saplings in Chinnagollapalem, Andhra Pradesh



Retrieval of hazardous ghost nets by local fisherfolk to mitigate marine entanglement along the Chennai coastline



Confronting the threat of ghost nets...

Ghost nets are the ocean's most deceptive predators—synthetic ghosts that haunt the seabed for generations. Unlike natural materials, these lost fishing nets remain indestructible, drifting through the deep and "fishing" indefinitely. Leading the charge in ghost net retrieval, we are removing these hazardous obstructions to ensure that the ocean remains a sanctuary rather than a trap for marine life.

This mission is powered by the very people who know the sea best. We facilitate intensive capacity-building programmes that equip local coastal communities with the skills and safety training required for effective surface retrieval. By transforming fishermen into "Ocean Stewards," the initiative fosters a culture of deep environmental awareness, ensuring that the dangers of abandoned gear are understood at the source.

Through these community-led patrols and the provision of specialized equipment, the programme does more than just clear the water; it builds a sustainable local infrastructure for marine conservation, ensuring that the protection of the ocean becomes a permanent pillar of coastal livelihood.

Deep extraction of long term buried fishing gear to restore degraded coastal habitats





Standardized weighing of retrieved ghost nets, Chennai



Neelankarai, Chennai

Grassroots mobilization for
coastal conservation through
community based cleanup and
awareness programme,
Penthakota, Odisha





Reclaiming the shoreline...

The shoreline is a critical frontier, yet it increasingly serves as a collection point for the global plastic crisis. We tackle this through systematic clean-up drives that remove hazardous debris before it can retreat into the ocean to damage marine habitats. By restoring these coastal corridors, the programme protects both local biodiversity and the health of the communities that depend on the sea.

This intervention is driven by local stewardship. We are empowering residents through capacity building and structured waste-management protocols, ensuring that collected plastics are segregated and diverted into recycling streams. By transforming clean-ups into a sustainable community movement, the initiative fosters long-term ownership, ensuring that the "Green Shield" remains pristine and resilient against pollution.





Overview of the Gulf of Mannar
marine biosphere reserve landscape





Community-led underwater retrieval operations in the Gulf of Mannar targeting the removal of ghost nets to safeguard fragile coral reef ecosystems



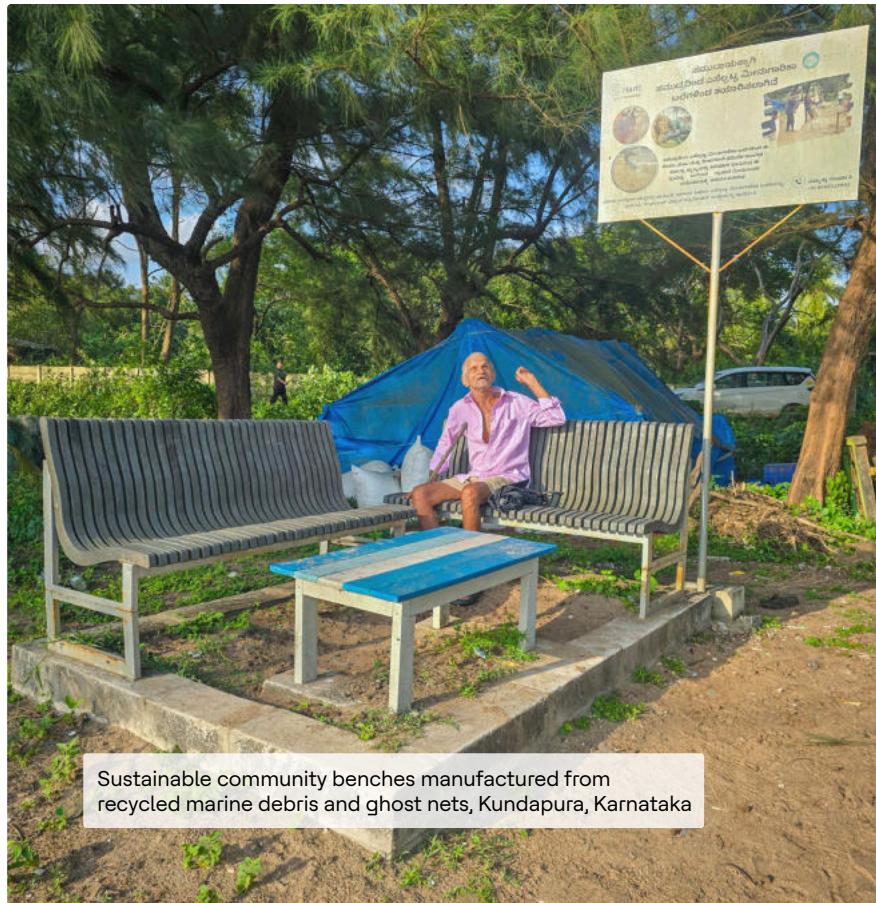
Augmenting the 'Debris Free Gulf of Mannar' initiative with dedicated diving and survey boats to facilitate systematic marine litter removal

Marine restoration in the Gulf of Mannar...

The Gulf of Mannar, a global biological treasure, faces a silent crisis from submerged "ghost gear" that threatens its delicate patch reefs and endangered dugong populations. Harit by HCL Foundation, in partnership with the Tamil Nadu Forest Department and the Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve Trust (GoMBRT), has launched a multi-year mission to reclaim this sanctuary. By deploying certified diving teams for deep-sea retrieval, the programme has successfully removed tonnes of hazardous debris and abandoned nets from the seabed. These interventions ensure that the region's vibrant coral ecosystems remain resilient, serving as a safe haven for marine life rather than a graveyard of synthetic waste.

True sustainability in the Gulf is driven by the local fishing villages of Ramanathapuram and Thoothukudi. We have pioneered a community-centric model that transforms local fishers into "Ocean Stewards" through intensive capacity building and awareness programmes.

Beyond surface and shoreline clean-ups, the initiative equips the community with the skills to identify and report ghost gear, while providing training for alternative livelihoods, such as upcycling retrieved nets into eco-friendly products. By fostering deep environmental responsibility and technical expertise, the programme ensures that those who depend most on the sea become its most formidable defenders.



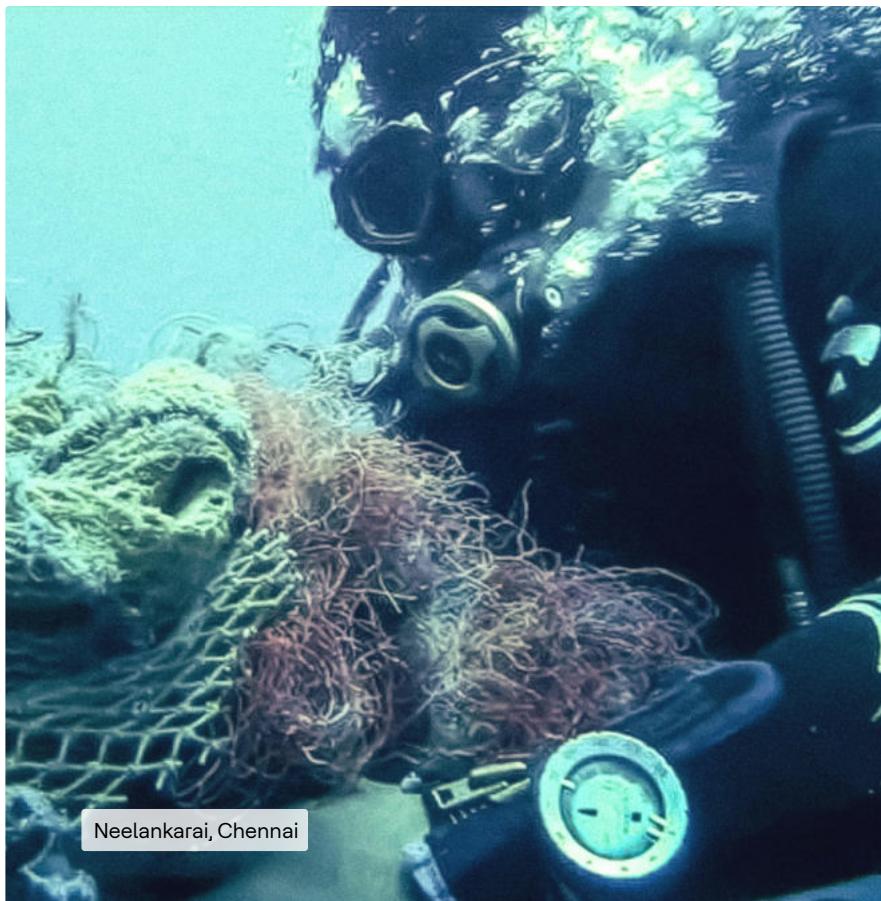
Sustainable community benches manufactured from recycled marine debris and ghost nets, Kundapura, Karnataka



Systematic sorting and segregation of retrieved ghost nets by fisherfolk, Kundapura, Karnataka



Removing submerged marine debris through the
'Dive to Retrieve' campaign along the Chennai coastline



Neelankarai, Chennai



Trained divers executing underwater
ghost net retrieval, Gulf of Mannar



HCLTech volunteers and communities worldwide joined forces for International Coastal Cleanup Day to tackle marine litter



Stunning sand art highlights ICCD 2025 at Pavinkurva Beach, Karnataka



Fishermen upcycling ghost nets into art, Odisha



Fisherfolk in Andhra Pradesh developing products using retrieved ghost nets

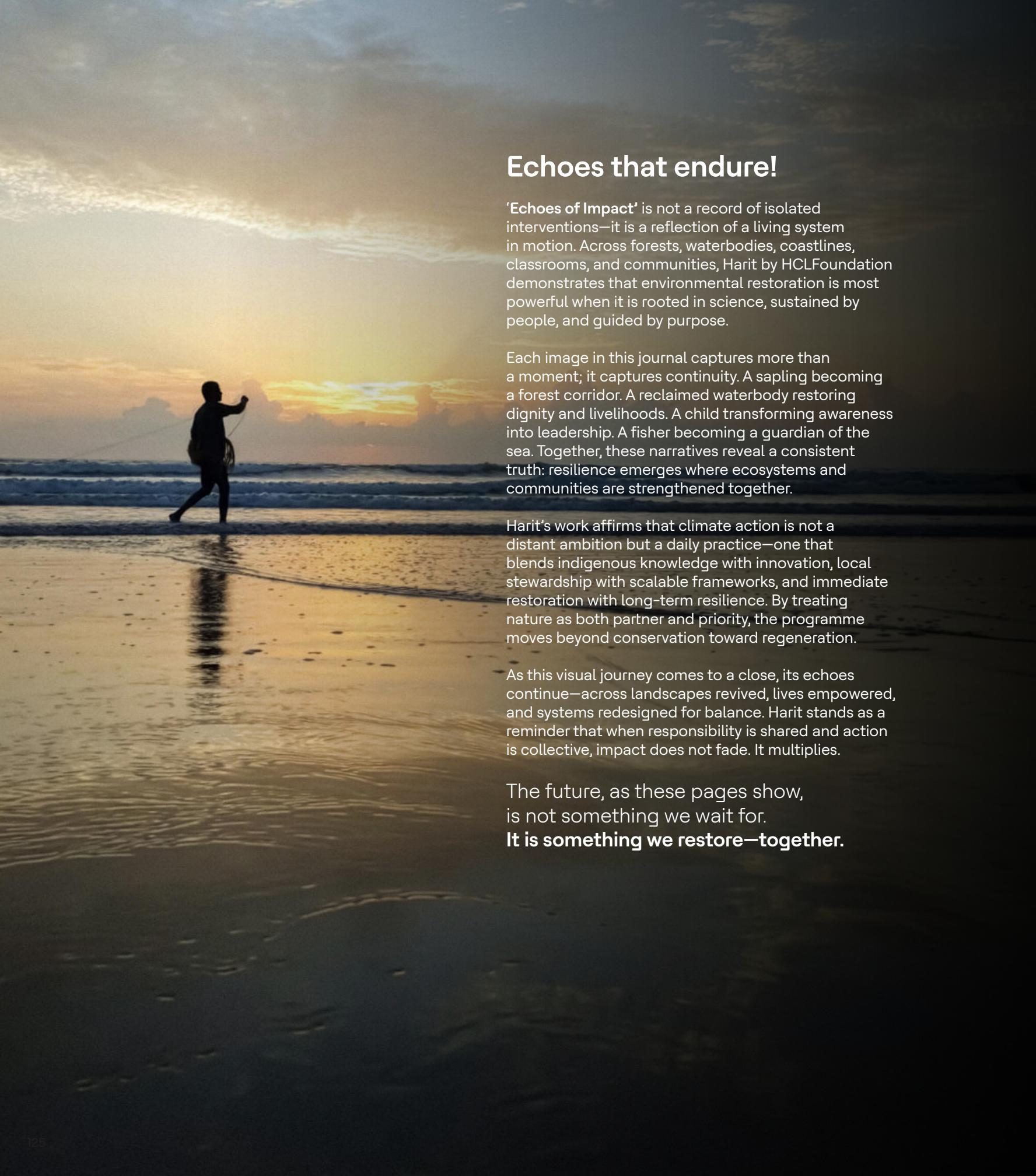
A legacy of resilience...

The interventions led by Harit across India's coastal frontiers—from the mangrove nurseries of the tidal zones to the deep-sea reefs of the Gulf of Mannar—demonstrate that environmental restoration is inseparable from social empowerment.

By removing the "silent killers" of the deep and fortifying our coastlines with living green shields, the programme has moved beyond traditional conservation. It has successfully created a blueprint where nature and humanity thrive in tandem, proving that the most effective defence against a changing climate is a community that is informed, equipped, and empowered to lead.



Post-cleanup, a mother sea turtle nests safely on Chennai's debris-free coast



Echoes that endure!

'Echoes of Impact' is not a record of isolated interventions—it is a reflection of a living system in motion. Across forests, waterbodies, coastlines, classrooms, and communities, Harit by HCLFoundation demonstrates that environmental restoration is most powerful when it is rooted in science, sustained by people, and guided by purpose.

Each image in this journal captures more than a moment; it captures continuity. A sapling becoming a forest corridor. A reclaimed waterbody restoring dignity and livelihoods. A child transforming awareness into leadership. A fisher becoming a guardian of the sea. Together, these narratives reveal a consistent truth: resilience emerges where ecosystems and communities are strengthened together.

Harit's work affirms that climate action is not a distant ambition but a daily practice—one that blends indigenous knowledge with innovation, local stewardship with scalable frameworks, and immediate restoration with long-term resilience. By treating nature as both partner and priority, the programme moves beyond conservation toward regeneration.

As this visual journey comes to a close, its echoes continue—across landscapes revived, lives empowered, and systems redesigned for balance. Harit stands as a reminder that when responsibility is shared and action is collective, impact does not fade. It multiplies.

The future, as these pages show,
is not something we wait for.
It is something we restore—together.

We expresses sincere gratitude to our partners and stakeholders...

Governement stakeholders

Indian Navy | Indian Coast Guard | National Mission for Clean Ganga |
Indian Institute of Information Technology, Nagpur | Tamil Nadu Forest Department |
Karnataka Forest Department | Kaziranga Tiger Conservation Foundation |
Police Commissionerate, Noida | District Administration, Gautam Buddha Nagar |
Madurai District Administration | Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority |
Lucknow Development Authority | Lucknow Nagar Nigam | Kundrathur Municipality

NGO partners

Animal Warriors Conservation Society | AROH Foundation | Aroha Multipurpose Society |
Arpan Seva | Avian and reptile rehabilitation Centre | BAIF Institute for Sustainable Livelihoods
and Development | Blue Cross of India | CAWA | Compassion Unlimited Plus Action | Development
of Humane Action Foundation (DHAN) | Development Research Communication and Services
Centre (DRCSC) | Eco Roots Foundation | Environmentalist Foundation of India | Friendicoes SECA
| Give Me Trees Trust | Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group | Gramin Vikas Trust | Hand in Hand
Inclusive Development Services | Humane Animal Society (HAS) | India Foundation for Humanistic
Development (IFHD) | Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage | Karma Foundation |
Keystone Foundation | M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) | Madras Crocodile
Bank Trust | Nehru Foundation for Development Centre for Environment Education Society (CEE)
| People's Action for Development (PAD) | ReefWatch Marine Conservation, Mumbai | SARA |
SayTrees Environmental Trust | Siruthuli | Society for Development Alternatives | Society for Wildlife
Conservation Education and Research | SPANDAN | Tarun Bharat Sangh | Technology Informatics
Design Endeavour (TIDE) | The Energy and Resources Institute | Thuvakkam Welfare Association |
Wildlife Rescue and rehabilitation centre (WRRC) | World Comics India | Yuva Rural Association

HCLFoundation

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