



S.N.M COLLEGE MALIANKARA

(Affiliated to Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam)

1. **Title of the program** : One-day Consultation programme on Mangrove Conservation and Management in Coastal Villages of Ernakulam (Saakalya)
2. **Name of the Coordinator/s** : Dr. Simi M S
3. **Organizing Department/Cell** : Department of Botany, N SS Unit, S N M College Maliankara, M S Swaminathan Research Foundation, HDFC Bank Parivartan.
4. **Date** : 26-7-2022
5. **Number of participants**: 87
6. **Venue**: Seminar hall, SNM College
7. **Resource Persons** : Dr. C. N. Sunil (Emienet plant Taxonomist), Dr R. Ramasubramanian (Senior Scientist at MSSRF, Chennai)
8. **Objective of the Program** : Sustainable mangrove restoration plan
9. **Detailed description of the event**: To bring together the stakeholders of the coastline of Vypin Island area for proposing a sustainable mangrove restoration plan, **One-day Consultation programme on Mangrove Conservation and Management in Coastal Villages of Ernakulam** was organized under the HDFC Bank Parivartan, M S Swaminathan Research Foundation in partnership with Research Department of Botany, N S S unit, S N M College Maliankara Grassroute Nayrambalam, and the local self-governments. It was conducted on **July 26, 2022** in connection with observing **International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem**. The first Talk on **Diversity and Ecology of Mangroves** was delivered by **Dr. C. N. Sunil**, Associate Professor (Rtd), SNM College, Maliankara and the second talk on **Community-centered approaches to restore and sustain mangrove wetlands of India**, was handled by **Dr. R. Ramasubramanian**, Senior Fellow, Coastal Systems Research, M S Swaminathan Research Foundation. Panel Discussion towards a plan for managing mangrove ecosystem in coastal villages of Ernakulam chaired by **Prof.(Dr)V. R. Prakasam**, Professor (retd.) from Mekelle University, Ethiopia
10. **Outcome of the event/Evaluation by Program Coordinator**

Summary of the points from the two sessions:

1. As a first step, a mapping of the area is to be completed, covering the distribution of natural populations of Mangroves and Mangrove associates, and by spotting the deteriorated/degraded areas. Towards this, a good effort is required including GIS

experts and community volunteers. Land ownership details are also required along with the map (Govt or Pvt land).

2. The environmental and economic evaluation of the mangrove ecosystem needs to be done.
3. Identify the threats and challenges to the mangrove ecosystem.
4. Identify the possible areas for restoration and identify the most suited species. We have to be careful while selecting the restoration sites on private land as the CRZ compliances are high and much of the private land is owned by public limited companies like Cochin Port Trust, PetronetLNG, and BPCL.
5. Restoration can be done alongside the small islands in the area.
6. Increase Environmental and Genetic literacy - Aware the community of the importance of the Mangrove Ecosystem. The concepts like Carbon sequestration need to be simplified so as to communicate better to the community. A documentary may also help in this.
7. Prepare a micro-plan along with the Local Self Governments, refer to the Joint Mangrove Management plan of MSSRF for the East Coast of India.
8. Anticipatory research to be initiated against sea-level rise and resulting issues.
9. There should be a sustainable alternative for sea walls/canal walls made up of granite/tetrapod. A pilot seawall with Mangroves – Bioshield can be thought of, for which the Vypin Block has been selected as committed by the VP. The Mangrove shield can be 50m East of the high-tide line. 1 km challenge?
10. Planting can be also done along the sides of the fish/prawn farms
11. MNREG scheme has to be sourced for planting and monitoring.
12. The monitoring of the programme should be from all angles – environmental, economical, and social. We have to also look at the soil and water quality and other parameters like the changes in biodiversity including that of fish, crustaceans, plants, and importantly algal/plankton diversity.
13. Mangroves can be planted in burrows across the sea/river coast. The burrows can be filled with mud, food waste, or any other organic waste from the rivers and canals.
14. Instead of more true Mangrove species, we should be able to plant a mixed forest with the representation of Mangrove associates (Around 25 species can be identified according to the area of restoration).
15. The Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) need to be strengthened towards the action. The People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs) to be evaluated for the inclusion of Mangroves and Mangrove associates.

16. Plastic pollution needs to be also discussed and sorted out along with the Mangrove restoration programme.
17. A community-centered Joint Mangrove Management (including microplanning and joint monitoring) is the need of the hour by strengthening the village-level institutions.
18. Vypin Block Panchayat has welcomed the organizers to join with their 'TheeraValayam' initiative.

SNM COLLEGE MALIANKARA

Research Department of Botany & NSS Unit



In Collaboration with

**M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation,
HDFC Bank Parivartan and Grassroute Nayarambalam**

**Observance of "International Day for the Conservation of
the Mangrove Ecosystem"**

**One-day Consultation on Mangrove Conservation and
Management in Vypin Island, on July 26, 2022.**

Venue: Seminar Hall



**Session 1: Panel discussion
(09:30 to 13:00)**

Chair:

Prof.(Dr) V. R. Prakasam,
Professor & Head (Retd.)
Department of Environmental
Sciences, University of Kerala

Invited Talk 1:

Biodiversity of Mangroves

By

Dr C.N. Sunil,

Research Advisor, Department
of Botany, SNM College

Invited Talk 2:

**Community-centred
approaches to restore and
sustain mangrove wetlands
of India**

By

Dr R. Ramasubramanian,

MSSRF, Chennai

Panel discussion

**Session 2: Reflections from the
Grassroute (14.00 to 16.30)**

Chair:

Dr T.H. Jitha,
Principal, SNM College

Open Forum

**Local Self Government
Departments and Community
Organizations**

**Reflections from the Local
Self Governments**

**Reflections from the
Community**

**Summarizing the Way
Forward Plan**

**Felicitations to the
Vanamithra Awardees**



14. List of participants

| Sl. No | NAME | DESIGNATION | PHONE NO | SIGNATURE |
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| 75. | Rajeev | Grass route | |
| 76. | I.B Manoj | Grass route | |
| 77. | Thomas | Grass route | |

