

# A CALL FOR ECO INNOVATION

## TEACHERS FOR ENVIRONMENT

In Association with Kerala State Council for Science,  
Technology and Environment (KSCSTE), Kerala

### **OBJECTIVES:**

- Awareness about eco-innovation through classrooms
- Awareness about the need for social responsibility, environment conservation and preservation in the minds of the students along with innovation

## TEACHERS FOR ENVIRONMENT

<b>RESOURCE PERSONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SILPA V. KUMAR IFS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PERIYAR TIGER RESERVE</li><li>• PROF. S. SIVADAS, FORMER HOD, DEPT. OF CHEMISTRY, CMS COLLEGE, KOTTAYAM</li><li>• DR. S. SANKAR, RTD. SCIENTIST, KFRI, PEECHI</li><li>• ADV. ASHKAR KHADER, LAWYER, HIGH COURT OF KERALA</li></ul>
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<b>DATE</b>	<b>NUMBER OF TRAINEES PARTICIPATED</b>
22-1-2019 to 25-1-2019	48

### BRIEF REPORT

Eco-innovation aims at environmental sustainability through new products or services, new management and business methods, which is likely to prevent or substantially reduce the risks to the environment, pollution and any other negative impact on the environment. Eco-innovative projects in different sectors are considered to be the next major challenge in the growth trajectory of our country. Every classroom and discipline must incorporate concepts related to environmental education. It incorporates the need for social responsibility, environment conservation and preservation in the minds of the students. Teachers can help students make wise choices about responding to climate change and safeguarding the planet's future. This can be implemented not only by teaching environmental science, but also by fostering an awareness of how students' own actions can create a better world. With an objective to develop environmental consciousness among the students through classrooms, a four-day training programme "Teachers for environment" was organised by the Postgraduate and Research Department of Zoology and funded by Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment, Govt. of Kerala from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 2<sup>th</sup> January 2019. The focal theme was Urban Forestry, Protection of Environment and Promotion of Ecological Aspects with the soul goal of making the academic community knowledgeable and trained in the advanced and

traditional methods in urban forestry, environment protection and get empowered in promoting the locally relevant ecological aspects through various activity oriented methodologies like mini dramas, role plays, citizens debate, games, conservation conference ,power point lectures and field trip.

The programme was inaugurated by Silpa V. Kumar IFS, Deputy Director, Periyar Tiger Reserve by lighting the lamp followed by the inaugural address stressing the very relevance of teaching community in environment management and conservation of biodiversity values. The afternoon session was led by Prof. S. Sivadas, Former HOD, Dept. Of Chemistry, CMS College, Kottayam and he inspired the group by his talk on ‘Role of Teachers in Environment Protection and Promotion of Ecological Aspects’. a technical session led by Dr. S. Sankar, Rtd. Scientist, KFRI, Peechi, detailing on the ‘Kerala Scenario of Urban Forestry and Soil Conservation’. His simple but in-depth presentation on the topic paved path for new thoughts. The next session on the ‘Current Scenario of Environmental Issues and Mitigations’ by Dr. Punnen Kurien, Principal, St. Marys College, Manarkad shed light on the importance of traditional knowledge. The third day of the training programme was made interesting and informative with a field visit to KFRI, Peechi. Another thought-provoking session in the event was the talk on ‘Environment Protection Laws and Policies’ by Adv. Ashkar Khader, Lawyer, High Court of Kerala. A total of 48 participants including teachers, teacher trainees and postgraduate students registered for the training programme. A post evaluation session was conducted on the final day of the programme using the concept of mapping method. The activity revealed widened extended concepts of each participant, regarding environment and its different aspects reflected the effectiveness of the training programme.

Silpa V. Kumar IFS inaugurating the training Programme



keynote address by Silpa V. Kumar IFS





Prof. S Sivadas in the Technical Session



Teachers working in the Workshop



Dr S. Sankar Former Scientist, KFRI leading a session





Dr. Sujatha, Scientist, KFRI explains the soil profile



Trainees observing in the butterfly garden, KFRI





Dr. S. Sujanapal, Scientist, KFRI explains urban forestry practices in Kerala





Trainees are in front KFRI extension centre



Adv. Ashkar Khader is taking Session on Environment Policies



