



DETAILED NOTE ON NATURE OF ACTIVITIES LAST 3 YEARS AND PLAN FOR FUTURE

1.INTRODUCTION

The ECO HIVE FOUNDATION was formally registered on 8th July 2022. The core objectives of the organisation are as follows:

- a. To experiment on local sustainable models to conserve the environment and ensure sustainable and resilient lifestyles in urban and rural communities.
- b. To evaluate and research the status of the society and environment and enable systems to protect, conserve and preserve the environment through cultural art practice, studies, demonstrable models and experiments, education material and publications and digital material.

We consider these charitable activities because the communities we work with suffer climate impacts such as floods, waterlogging, loss of crop, livelihoods, housing, jobs due to ecological degradation and provide services to help overcome these problems.

Very often due to unequal conditions, these communities are unable to access government services and schemes, or the lack the knowledge. We try to focus on those people who are left out of most opportunities due to disability, social and economic status, education status, discrimination and other related social causes.

Our charitable activities as included in our AOA and MOA include the following:

Building sustainable lifestyles

- a. Working towards social inclusion of poor communities, specifically women and children and build their leadership on working on resilient and sustainable lifestyles.

We identify women who are facing different kinds of problems and experiencing a lack of access to livelihoods etc. We conduct workshops, trainings, counselling and community activities to encourage social inclusion and build support systems to access better planned livelihoods

- b. Encourage, assist and extend knowledge and training for incubation of social and environmental initiatives for youth, community-based organisations/co-ops/collectives/leaders/ and children working on environmental well-being.

We conduct participatory workshops with women to identify their areas of interest and skills in planning collective livelihood activities. We then provide training without any fees so they may explore their work.

- c. Advance and protect the interests of environmental and cultural conservation, sustainable livelihoods, education, health, capacity building and skill building

Most of the initiatives we work on have principles of environmental well being and health and eco cultural principles rooted in the planning of these initiatives. For example reviving old artisanal crafts such as pickle making, leaf mats , katha making, hand embroidered goods, preserved and dried food items, which not only improve a cultural knowledge bank but also improves self sufficient lifestyles, social confidence and acceptance of the women.

Donations are sought to support the trainings, participants do not have to pay a fee.



Workshop with women in Sitalia, Sandeshkhali Sunderban, whose family members have migrated out to work. The women are exchanging vegetable seeds for their nutrition gardens.



At Gobindokathi, Hingalganj



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Seeds being stored and exchanged



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Lemon pickle making



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Papad Making in Nakuadaha and Panitor Villages, Basirhat



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Mushroom training to improve nutritional intake in women headed households, Nakuadaha village, Basirhat



Mushroom training. Women training women. A relay of trainers are built to help each other learn. Mushroom spawns are distributed by the organisation. Sitalia Sandeshkhali, Sunderban

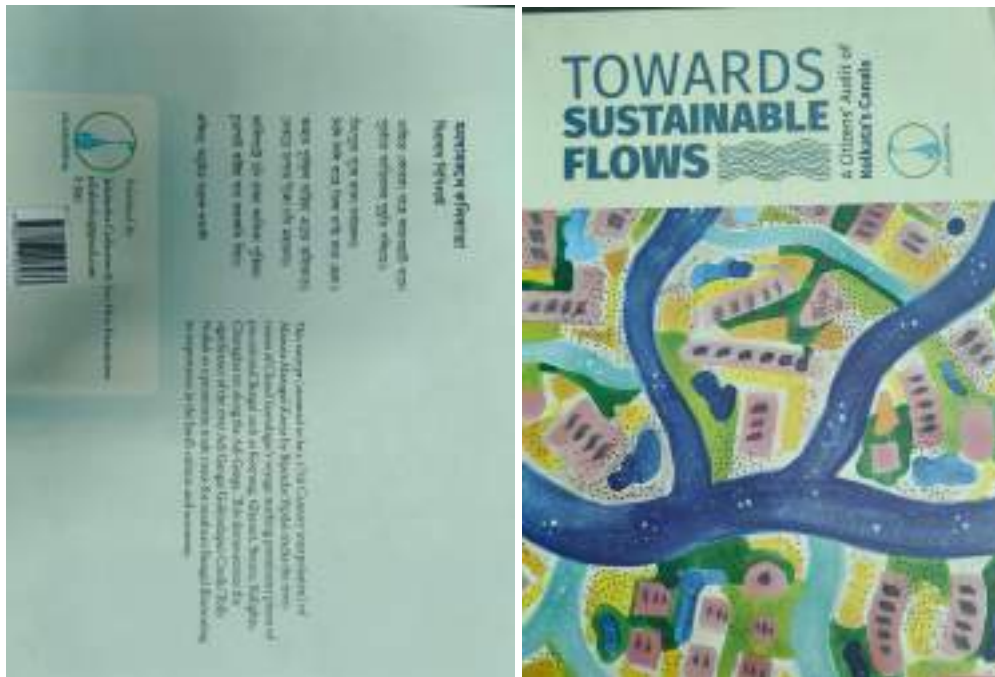


Workshops discussing our dreams through stitching, Panitor, Basirhat



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- d. Promote and advance the study of the human condition, social, economic, gender and environmental and cultural issues, art practices and solutions around environmental problems. This also includes working on issues of health, nutrition and well-being, agriculture, handloom and artisanal livelihoods.



Panel discussion at Jadunath Resource Centre on the canals of Kolkata, Towards Sustainable Flows on September 6, 2024



Mallika Das Sutar presented snippets from their performative project to recover water bodies in Behala involving the local children and people.



Madhuja Mukherjee shared her documentary work regarding Kolkata's Canals.







- e. To conduct research required in furthering knowledge and interest on purpose of attaining objects of the foundation by establishment and promotion of lectures, surveys, discussions, correspondence or publications, by the holding of conferences and meetings for the discussion of papers, documentaries, videos, visual art, illustrations, digital art, cultural performances, by the formation of libraries, by the foundation and endowment of professorships, studentships, fellowships, scholarships and prizes or by encouraging research work/community work or otherwise.
- f. To provide research, knowledge building and training services to other not for profit organisations, companies and government working on similar issues.
- g. To provide services and facilities, such as crowd funding platforms, online sale platforms, outlets to market locally made sustainable products for cooperatives, self-help groups, women's collectives, individuals, artists and artisans and to gather resources to promote the objects of the foundation and lend this support to communities and collectives.
- h. To run, manage, promote and participate in all types of government and non-government programs for development of society.
- i. To form groups, collectives and individuals for ecological livelihood purposes. Sale of products and produce from these livelihood initiatives will help to augment their income and may be taken up by the foundation. A mutually decided proportion from the sale of this produce will be collected by the foundation into its corpus to further the objects of the Foundation.
- j. Provide vocational/educational guidance and counselling and/or establishing, supporting, conducting, vocational guidance bureau either virtual or real.

2. Nature of Activities for Last Three Years (July 2022 to March 2025)

YEAR 1 JULY 2022 to MARCH 2023

In the first year of its activities the organisation was mainly involved in working through systems to lay out foundational work of a formal organisation.

This included

- a. Gathering foundational resources to set up the organisation
- b. Designing and uploading the website for the organisation



YEAR 2 APRIL 2023 to MARCH 2024

In the second year of its activities the organisation specifically worked around supporting women's groups in rural part of North 24 parganas with building sustainable livelihoods. Photographs attached earlier

Environmental and Creativity Workshops for rural children in Purulia: The organisation received a small grant from Centre for Ecological Movement (CEMO) to conduct workshops on environmental conservation, relationship building with elephants through a series of creative and activity workshops run with tribal children in Purulia. These workshops were to address human-animal conflicts, understand animal behaviours better and work with the community to address their problems.

Photo 1: Environmental Education and Creativity Workshops in Purulia with CEMO(Centre for Ecological Movements)





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Photo 2 : Session held in school Sri Sri Academy, Kolkata on session with middle school children on the environment and youth participation November 2023



In the remote regions of Purulia quality education is still a distant dream for Adivasi children. We hold workshops and camps in a community run school which aims to provide different learning experiences and exposure to children, even though the government schools still require improvement. We have supported with new curriculum designs, and fun methodologies which bring in confidence of knowing, learning and expressing for children from difficult backgrounds.



We were called in to share our environmental expertise with Class 9 to 12 of formal schools, so they may think of future action on the same.

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Toy making from recycled bottles while talking about gender bias, laws of physics through practical experiments in the classroom in Nonadanga, East Kolkata Wetlands

YEAR 3 APRIL 2024 to MARCH 2025

- a. Building access of rural producers to markets through supportive services: A payment portal was also set up with the support of banking system for payments online, packaging and transporting solutions were provided to the women, and online marketing support was given to women producers. In this way confidence building of rural women improving their access to the market were some



Volunteers supporting the sales of womens products at local seminar in Biswa Bangla



Products at a mela

- b. Supported the women producers of Basirhat with a space for meetings, conducted mushroom trainings, pickle and jaggery trainings. Some producers were connected with cluster coordinators of self help groups in their area, become members of SHGs and they were encouraged to take advantage of government trainings, such as FSSAI trainings, access to fairs and markets organised by SHG federations.

Photographs attached earlier

- c. Appointed advisors to advise with future work for the foundation, vision development and networking

- d. The foundation supported the research conducted by Jaladarsha, through publication support of its research on the canals of Kolkata and also hosted a panel discussion at Jadunath Museum and Resource Centre/ Centre for Social Science Research on water issues.
- e. The foundation received individual donation support to conduct water body surveys in two wards and update its database on the situation of ponds in Kolkata in Ward 67 and 92.
- f. The foundation also participated at handloom event by Ministry of Culture, Sutra, showcasing various gamcha products, woven saris and dupattas and helped promote the products made by women producers in these forums through networking and support and also helped to bring in orders for them to make more items.

NEXT 3 YEAR PLANS

- a. Publication of manuals, toolkits and compendiums to assist with environmental education among children and adults
- b. Publication of story books, audio visual and art products for education
- c. Research and evaluation on pertinent issues on the environment and climate change, disaster preparedness
- d. Conducting trainings with rural and urban communities on environmental conservation and coexistence.
- e. Supporting with rural women producer trainings, production and marketing, access to markets, innovation in food processing, chemical free farm trainings and marketing
- f. Formal certifications and licensing processes for continued sale support for producers
- g. Raw material acquisition for new producers, equipment and other support to expand work of good producers
- h. Increase spread to newer areas and engaging and supporting women producer groups, and youth through workshops
- i. Working towards social inclusion of poor communities, specifically women and children and build their leadership on working on resilient and sustainable lifestyles.
- j. Encourage, assist and extend knowledge and training for incubation of social and environmental initiatives for youth, community-based organisations/co-ops/collectives/leaders/ and children working on environmental well-being.
- k. Advance and protect the interests of environmental and cultural conservation, sustainable livelihoods, education, health, capacity building and skill building
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