



# A NATIONAL WORKSHOP ECO NEXT WORKSHOP ON THE ECO SENSITIVE ZONE OF MATHERAN

Jointly organized by

**Grassroots Foundation and Raichel Joseph Foundation, Mumbai**

Catalyzed and supported by

**National Council for Science & Technology Communication,  
Department of Science & Technology, New Delhi**

**January & February, 2020  
VENUE: Chinchmal, Raigad Dist.**

A national workshop on the Eco-sensitive Zone of Matheran was conducted in January & February 2020 jointly organized by Grassroots Foundation and Raichel Joseph Foundations. Catalyzed and supported by National Council for science & Technology Communication, Department of Science & Technology, New Delhi.

Twenty six participants from different backgrounds like students, farmhouse caretakers, house maker young women and guides were selected for the workshop coming from various *Padas* within Eco-sensitive zone of Matheran. held on 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> January 2020

The first Workshop conducted in Raigad Zilla focused on introducing the intent and benefits of the workshop to people of the local communities of Matheran and its eco-sensitive zone. Advance workshop Eco-sensitive Zone of Matheran for 26 participants where conducted from 24<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> February 2020 which comprised of guest lectures from the expertise of varied specific field, visit to Mumbai to engage and learn from the renowned institute, conduct a walk around the village, interact with the council in Matheran and perform a small project



Introducing and felicitating chief guest and officials of forest department



Explaining the importance of Eco-tourism and eco-sensitive approach towards the surroundings through a small Street play or *Pathnatya* performed by Rangmanch.



The students gather at the school premises for prize distribution for drawing competition conducted



Prizes awarded to winners



A welcome song is sung by student Vinay at the beginning of the workshop and a small interventional skit performed on rainwater harvesting and eco-techniques.



Lecture and presentation by Rashmi Warkhandkar on Eco-friendly lifestyle



A workshop on Eco-tourism participation by local community and orientation conducted by Rashmi Sawant.

## SESSION 1 (FEB 2020)

Introduction to the advance workshop and introduction to the bio-diversity of the Matheran Eco-sensitive zone by *Dr.Pallavi Latkar*



## SESSION 2

Introduction to the reptiles and immediate measures to be taken if bitten by *Dr. Laxmikant Deshpande*



Introduction to butterflies by *Mr.Divakar Thombre*

## SESSION 3:



**Site exposure visit to Karjat Forest Office and interaction with RFO Mr. Bhujbal**



**Nature trails and species identification by Dr. CS Lattoo**



**Solar Cooker insights and Cooking session, Eco-Tourism in Chiplun (self sustaining example) and Talk on Matheran and Eco-sensitive zone of Matheran by Vinit Waghe**

## Communication skills and tourism management and capacity building

The participants travelled from Chinchmal to Garware Insitute for understanding communication skills and tourism management. The institute had arranged breakfast, lunch and tea breaks between the sessions. Various studios for presentations which gave an exposure to the participants. The lectures where given by the faculty of the institute.



## Hotel Management

The participants again travelled from Chinchmal to Patkar-varde college, Goregaon for understanding hotel management. Various interactive and hands-on session gave an exposure to the participants. The lectures where given by the faculty of the institute.

Exposure visit with **Mr. Kokare (CO) & Mrs. Prerna Sawant** - An interactive dialogue with Matheran Municipal Corporation regarding their concerns. The participants actively discussed their issues





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## **WAY FORWARD**

**26<sup>th</sup> March, 2021**

**VENUE: Satya Sai Baba Hall, Chinchmal, Raigad Dist.**



A National workshop “Eco-Next workshop on Eco-sensitive Zone of Matheran” jointly organized by Grassroots Foundation and Raichel Joseph Foundations. Catalyzed and supported by National Council for science & Technology Communication, Department of Science & Technology, New Delhi was envisioned to be a two part workshop, the first part dealt with 3-days orientation workshop where the first day involved the larger community (schools & villages) and the next two days interacting with the selected youth/participants for the workshop. The second part was an advance workshop which focused on training the youth of these villages to become entrepreneurs and capitalize on the environment the live in through eco-tourism.

The First workshop conducted on 16-17-18<sup>th</sup> January 2020, helped us to identify and know the youth/participants of the villages which was imperative to plan the advance workshop. Their strength and weakness were identified which helped us curate the lectures and training sessions. Various interactive activities were added in the advance workshop which engaged the participants.

Advance workshop Eco-sensitive Zone of Matheran for 26 participants was conducted from 24<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> February 2020 jointly organized by Grassroots Foundation and Raichel Joseph Foundations. Catalyzed and supported by National Council for science & Technology Communication, Department of Science & Technology, New Delhi

The advance workshop comprised of guest lectures from the expertise of varied specific field, visit to Mumbai to engage and learn from the renowned institute, conduct a walk around the village, interact with the council in Matheran and perform a small project.



**WAY FORWARD**  
**26<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at CHINCHMAL**

10.30 - 11.00 AM	Arrival and Tea
11.00 - 11.15 AM	<b>Introduction to the event , Guest of Honours &amp; Eminent Experts</b> by <i>Dr. Pallavi Latkar</i>
11.15 - 11.30 AM	<b>Movie on Eco-next workshop journey</b>
11.30 - 12.00 PM	<b>Street Play</b> By <i>Rangmach</i>
12.00 - 12.30 PM	<b>Forest Anecdotes</b> by <i>DCF Ashish Thakare</i> (Guest of Honours)
12.30 - 1.00 PM	<b>Environmental Anecdotes</b> by <i>Dr.Ghorpade</i> (Guest of Honours)
1.00 - 1:30 PM	Lunch Break
1:30 - 2.00 PM	<b>Interaction with Participants</b> by <i>Darshana Joshi</i>
2.00 - 2.30 PM	<b>Climbing the mountain- a lesson in resilience</b> by <i>Rashmi Sawant</i>
2.30 - 3.00 PM	<b>Realigning with New Normals of Eco-Tourism</b> by <i>Dr.Sagarika Damle</i>
3.00 - 4.00 PM	<b>Presentation by fellow Researchers</b> <i>Baban Babu , Darshana Zhore &amp; Ganesh Gore</i> Feedback and way forward guided by experts.
4.00 - 4.30 PM	<b>Certificate distribution</b> <b>Group photos</b> <b>Concluding note</b> by <i>Dr.Pallavi Latkar</i>
4.30 - 5.00 PM	Tea Break and Dispersal

**THE TEAM**

*Dr.Pallavi Latkar , Prof.Shruti Barve, Prof. Stuti Borvankar*

*Prof.Priyanka Lele , Prof. Richa Raut , Prof. Sailee Gosavi, Ar. Anagha Palekar*

*Ar. Sumeet Patil, Amita Shetty & Swapnil Karnekar*

## INTRODUCTION OF THE EVENT & INTERACTION WITH GUEST OF HONORS



Introduction to event by **Dr. Pallavi Latkar**



Interaction with Guest of Honors - **DR. DNYANADEV GHORPADE, M.Sc., Ph.D. & DCF ASHISH THAKARE**

## STREET PLAY BY RANGMANCH



## INTERACTIVE SESSIONS



*Interactive session conducted by Darshana Joshi*



*Interactive talk by Dr.Sagarika Damle*



*Interactive talk by Rashmi Sawant*

## FELICITATION OF THE RESEARCH FELLOWS



Baban Babu-  
(Study of Demographic, cultural & environmental aspects)



Darshana Zhore-  
(Information of Diversified Plant species & wild life)



Mangala Phasale -  
Documenting Social and traditional Heritage of Chinchmal.



Ganesh Gore-  
A sample itinerary for eco-tourism

## Way Forward



*Group photo after successful workshop*

The inception of the workshop started with a seed of creating youth entrepreneurs envisioning the concept of eco-tourism in their region. The two – part workshop helped them in building their personality, imbibing confidence to present themselves in front of an audience. The values of team work, exchange of knowledge and learning about eco-tourism was developed through various interactive sessions and talks from the experts.

It was an interesting and on-going journey to observe each local participant develop in their own capacity and envisioning the topic of eco-tourism through various lenses.

The relationship between the participants and the Grassroots Foundation Team goes beyond the boundaries of education and continues to explore and celebrate their success and achievements.