



Implemented by

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Issue no. 15 | Sept 2021

Indo-German Biodiversity Programme Newsletter



This newsletter shares project updates and thematic news from our programme

A service by IGBP, GIZ

Dear Reader,

With the pandemic slowing down currently, we are excited to be able to slowly resume our project fieldwork, though with caution and adherence to the health protocols.

This year the High-Level Segment and the first part of the UN Biodiversity Conference from 12 - 13 October will be hosted by China. It is expected to adopt the Kunming Declaration "Ecological Civilization: Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth". The hope is to build and maintain political momentum on the ongoing negotiations to develop an effective post-2020 global biodiversity framework, for adoption in the second part of the Conference in spring 2022.

In the fifteenth issue of this newsletter, we have featured interesting updates from across India including articles on green recovery measures at a wetland in Tamil Nadu and lessons learned from our closing global project on spices in the Western Ghats. After the trailers shared in the last newsletter, we are also featuring the full-length films with the communities on sustainable ecotourism in the Himalayas. We thank you for your support and welcome your valuable feedback towards further improving our engagement with you.

Stay safe and healthy.

**Warmly,
Editors**

- » Enhancement of Smallholder Spice Farmers' Capacities in Sustainable Farming
- » Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation in India
- » Private Business Action for Biodiversity
- » Sustainable Management of Forest Ecosystem Services
- » Wetlands Management for Biodiversity and Climate Protection

SPOTLIGHT

- » Biodiversity-friendly Spice Cultivation and Upscaling
- » Mangrove Rehabilitation in Muthupet, Tamil Nadu

NEW RELEASES AND RESOURCES

UPCOMING EVENTS

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

Updates from the Projects

Enhancement of Smallholder Spice Farmers' Capacities in Sustainable Farming



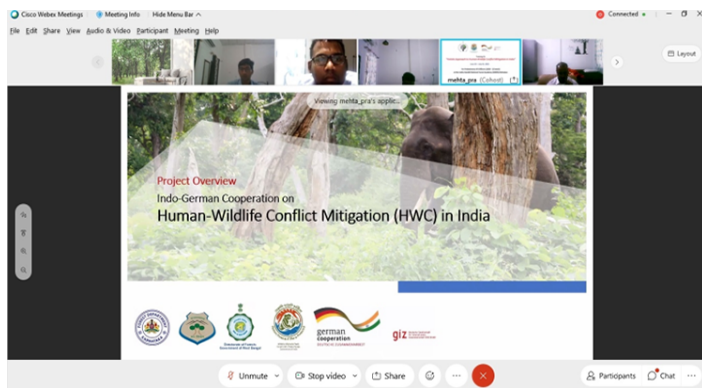
©P.J. Sijo, RajaKumari

Training Series for Cardamom Farmers in Kerala

The project has planned a series of virtual training sessions on 'Sustainable Cardamom Cultivation Practices' for the farmers in Idukki district, Kerala. Over 55 farmers, including women farmers, attended the second training on 17 July.

[News »](#)

Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation in India



Training for IFS Probationers

A three-day online training on "Holistic Approach to Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation in India" was conducted from 29 June to 1 July for 67 IFS probationers of Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy (IGNFA), Dehradun.

[News »](#)

Private Business Action for Biodiversity



Best Practices Forum and Project Closing Event

The virtual event was organised on 31 August and saw the participation of over 80 stakeholders. The India Case Study on Spices for 'Effective Instruments for the Sustainable Protection of Biodiversity' was launched at the event.

Sustainable Management of Forest Ecosystem Services



©GIZ/Agnesh Kumar

Forest Minister launches project in Himachal Pradesh

Hon'ble Forest Minister of Himachal Pradesh Mr Rakesh Pathania launched the FES project on 1 September at Shimla. The project is a follow-on module of the Himachal Pradesh Forest Ecosystem Services project (2016-2020).

[News »](#)

Wetlands Management for Biodiversity and Climate Protection



Bhitarkanika Mangroves in Odisha ©GIZ/Kunal Bharat

Workshop on Climate Risk Assessment

A workshop to discuss results from assessment studies towards a strategic approach to integrated wetland management planning was organised on 1 August and saw the participation of over 80 stakeholders.

[News »](#)

Spotlight

Biodiversity-friendly Spice Cultivation and Upscaling

Adapted from the PBAB-India Case Study on Spices

A growing number of farmers, collectors and companies across the world are working towards conserving and restoring biodiversity. By improving awareness and knowledge on biodiversity and biodiversity management instruments, a global project aimed to bring promising examples for biodiversity-friendly spice production to scale. As a result, leading companies in this sector have set goals to make spice production more sustainable.

One of the most important regions for spice production in India are the Western Ghats, which are also among the world's most important biodiversity hotspots. The main spices in this region are black pepper, cardamom (green), nutmeg and cinnamon. The increasing demand for these spices has led to an intensification of production escalating the ecological pressure on this region.

[Keep reading »](#)



©GIZ/Poonam Pande

Mangrove Rehabilitation in Muthupet, Tamil Nadu

Green recovery as COVID response

As a response to COVID-19 and the lockdown, green recovery measures are being implemented at the Point Calimere Ramsar site in India. These measures offer employment opportunities to communities around the site in the short-term while building long-term resilience through management of healthy wetland ecosystems. The measures are focused on the implementation of livelihood-oriented training, conservation, and restoration activities.

Communities living around the Ramsar site are dependent on Muthupet mangroves for canal and lagoon fishing. In the western part of Muthupet mangroves, a traditional method of fishing locally called *vaaikkal meenpidippu* (canal fishing) is practiced, which integrates fishery development with mangrove regeneration. In this method, canals are constructed across the mangrove wetland in the north-south direction.

[Keep reading »](#)



Fishing canal prior to restoration © DHAN Foundation



Sustainable Ecotourism at Shangarh, Himachal Pradesh

This film follows the various capacity development initiatives with local communities such as birdwatching, trekking, cooking, and homestays operations conducted under the HP-FES project at Shangarh for empowering communities to manage sustainable eco-sensitive tourism and conserve UNESCO's world heritage site 'The Great Himalayan National Park'.

[Watch the film »](#)

[Hindi film »](#)

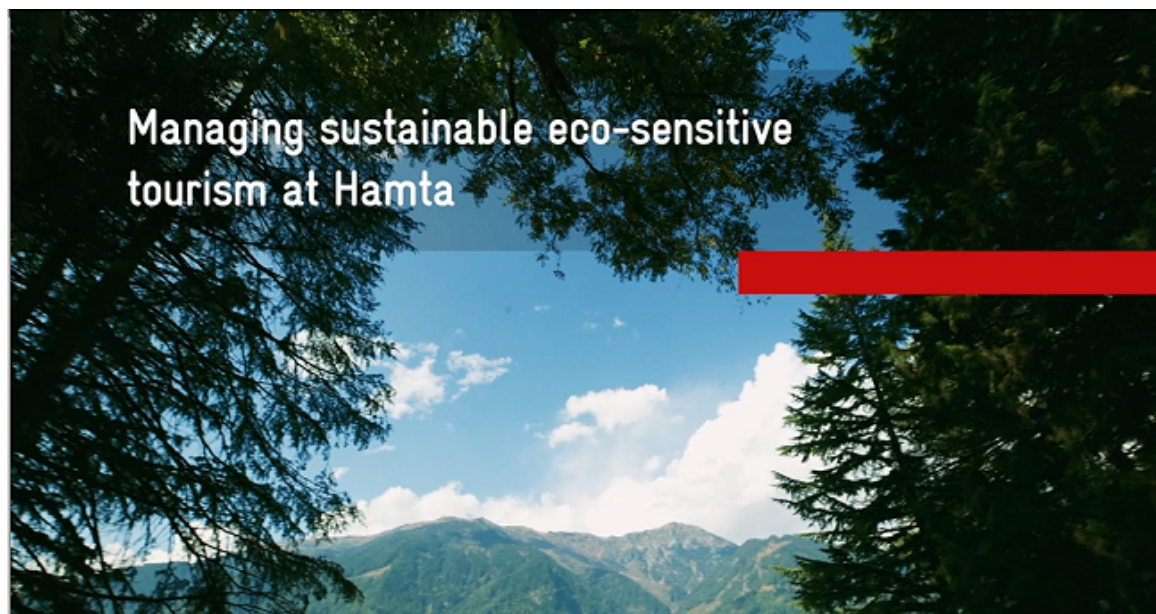


Sustainable Ecotourism at Hamta, Himachal Pradesh

Hamta is one of the most pristine sites of Himachal Pradesh, outside of having high camping pressure and unsustainable trekking footfall. This film showcases some of the major activities under the HP-FES project for the capacity development of local communities, acknowledging them as the core workforce behind operating sustainable eco-sensitive tourism.

[Watch the film »](#)

[Hindi film »](#)





Upcoming Events

World Migratory Bird Day | 9 October

» <https://www.worldmigratorybirdday.org/>

Fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity | 11 - 15 October 2021

» <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/COP-15>

World Food Day | 16 October

» <http://www.fao.org/world-food-day/en>



About the Programme

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India, in partnership with **GIZ India** is implementing the Indo-German Biodiversity Programme (IGBP).



Commissioned in India on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), the programme addresses the challenges of biodiversity conservation in five projects:

- Sustainable Management of Forest Ecosystem Services (FES)
- Enhancement of Smallholder Spice Farmers' Capacities in Sustainable Farming
- Wetlands Management for Biodiversity and Climate Protection
- Human Wildlife Conflict Mitigation in India (HWC)
- Private Business Action for Biodiversity (PBAB)



[Subscribe to the IGBP Newsletter »](#)

[Project Publications »](#)

[Contact](#)

[Disclaimer](#)

[Recommend this newsletter](#)

www.giz.de



Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Registered offices
Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 32 + 36
53113 Bonn, Germany
T +49 228 44 60-0
F +49 228 44 60-17 66

Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1 - 5

65760 Eschborn, Germany
T +49 61 96 79-0
F +49 61 96 79-11 15

E info@giz.de
I www.giz.de

Registered at

Local court (Amtsgericht) Bonn, Germany: HRB 18384
Local court (Amtsgericht) Frankfurt am Main, Germany: HRB 12394

VAT no. DE 113891176

Tax no. 040 250 56973

Chairman of the Supervisory Board

Martin Jäger

Management Board

Tanja Gönner (Chair of the Management Board)

Ingrid-Gabriela Hoven

Thorsten Schäfer-Gümbel

In charge of this newsletter:

Ravindra Singh, Programme Director

Editor(s):

Neha Owaisy, Junior Communication Officer

With contributions from:

IGBP Team

Photo Credits:

Title image

©GIZ/Aashima Negi | ©GIZ/Dhivyalakshmi S. | ©GIZ/Neeraj Khera | ©GIZ/Poonam Pandey | ©GIZ/Ritesh Sharma

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please click [here](#).