



**Nature Environment & Wildlife Society**

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018**



**Nature Environment & Wildlife Society (NEWS)**, founded in 1991, is an N.G.O. The primary focus of the organization is to conserve wildlife, ecology, natural resources and sustainable livelihoods for an improved environment. NEWS is a name of conviction in the conservation circle through its work, passion and dedication. The organization work for a better future where scientific research, knowledge dissemination, community engagement and policy advocacy are put together to achieve sustainable development. In this fast changing world, conservation is a continuous process where new challenges emerge every day. There is no such milestone in conservation which can be achieved once and for all. However, the process must adjust to social, economic, environmental and scientific advancements. The organization believes that without community's empowerment and participation no amount of effort can sustain any threatened or vulnerable ecosystem, livelihood or natural resources.

### **Vision :**

Ensure Sustainable and functioning ecosystems for a wise planet

### **Mission :**

To protect and restore the ecosystems and its services, the flora-fauna and their habitat for humanity

### **Objectives :**

- Conservation - Protection of species, habitat, ecology through research, planning and demonstrative projects.
- Evaluation - Documentation, monitoring, sustainable use of ecosystems and its services
- Resilience - Identify, explore and recommend specific actions to mitigate and adapt to risks, esp in the context of climate change
- Awareness - Inform and educate
- Stewardship - Build ownerships of local communities
- Advocacy - Address policy related issues
- Synergy - Bring stakeholders together
- Gender - Sensitisation and empowerment

**Head office: 10, Chowringhee Terrace, Kolkata 700020**

**Branch Offices: Sundarban – Ramganga, Kumirmari, Canning, Kakdwip**

**Dumurdaha-Takipara, Hooghly district, West Bengal**

**Katwa, Bardhaman District, West Bengal**

**Dangamal, Bhitarkanika-Odisha**

## From the Secretary's Desk

NEWS has stepped into 27th year since its inception during these long years we have seen the organization growing from its budding stage. So far we were concentrated in different parts of West Bengal only but now the society has spread wings into other states, that is Maharashtra and Orissa. Apart from our exciting partners new agencies like GNF, BMZ, Aldi Süd, Shore, KFW, DEG, Ristic GmbH, Blue Sensus and Mercedes-Benz all from Germany, BoPinc from Netherlands have joined hand with us in livelihood and conservation programmes; we could establish partnership with JICA, the Japanese funding agency and World Bank through WBADMIP. Our old partner RBS foundation has entrusted with conservation related livelihoods programmes in Sundarban. I am happy to say that JSW steel has extended their mangrove restoration project for another 2 years in Dolvi, Raigad, Maharashtra.

We have got immense support from Department of Forest, Fisheries and Agriculture of Govt of West Bengal in carrying out all our conservation and livelihoods projects.

We have taken part in Tiger census in Sundarban Tiger Reserve under all India Tiger census process, 2018. We have also participated in Kolkata International Book fair. The society has celebrated World Environment day, Earth Day, Mangrove Action Day and Bio-diversity Day through awareness, plantation and competition in different schools.

News has participated at the rehabilitation and protection of tropical mangrove ecosystem held in Srilanka. The society has send delegation at the Marketplace, held in Paris to showcase the activities and produces of the organisation.

Eight workshops were organised for training of Carbon Measurement, Wildlife Conflict Mitigation, Integrated Fisheries, and Building Resilience of Coastal Communities along with Training for Wildlife Management, Urban Sustainability and role of Wetlands, Branding & Marketing Strategy for Farmers of India.

We thank all our partners and donors for giving us opportunity for working in the field of conservation and livelihoods.

## From the desk of Joint Secretary

*"How does the Meadow-flower its bloom unfold?  
Because the lovely little flower is free  
Down to its root, and, in that freedom, bold;  
And so the grandeur of the Forest-tree  
Comes not by casting in a formal mould,  
But from its own divine vitality" – William Wordsworth*

I believe that we, in NEWS, 'own divine vitality' in the magnificent diversity of the work that we do, serenity of attitude and commitments we represent in our work and strong yet colourful faces, fun and criticism from the marginalised people with whom we work in extreme landscapes.

I feel blessed that I am in the conservation arena with NEWS and the leadership gives absolute freedom to work by your choice keeping the mandates of the organisation; I also witness a slight change in perception of the people around us who seem to be concerned that everything is not going well with the way we are handling nature; that environment, wildlife conservation agendas are gaining popularity day by day. People are getting conscious, and thanks to the dedicated works of different individuals, agencies, media, Governments and private companies who are advocating strongly for the cause. It becomes then easier for us to work if the general acceptance in the society for the cause is raised.

Last year, we have got new partner friends in Germany. Global Nature Fund and Blue Sensus has accepted our proposals. Vey innovative and some new challenging work of establishing honey filtration unit, integrated mangrove aquaculture has been proposed and accepted. Our programme for long term protection of mangroves is getting stronger with the Stewardship model that NEWS is practising. 2017-2018 we pledged to make new partnerships and the goal has been realised with new logos standing beside us and we have spread beyond West Bengal and working in two other states, Maharashtra and Odisha. Also, we have partnered with the West Bengal Accelerated Development through Minor Irrigation Projects for implementation of integrated fishery systems in Hooghly district. Livelihoods, Paris have continued to be our partner and guide us in various cross roads.

We thank all our well-wishers, patrons, friends and partners for their continued support for the vision and mission that we stand for. I also thank my team for their committed actions; convey my deepest regards to our advisors & KGRS team for their guidance and support.

Look forward to working together for a sustainable planet,

Regards,

Ajanta Dey



*Mangrove Restoration Team – Dolvi, Maharashtra*

## **Mangrove Restoration along the mud-embankments at Dolvi, Raigad, Maharashtra**

Mangroves represent a vibrant and fragile ecosystem which are interdependent. Therefore, restoration of mangroves have a direct impact not only on the functioning ecosystem services, but also on the floral and faunal conservation which may often include residence and passage of the migrant aquatic birds like storks, kingfishers, flamingos, geese, waders and many more who use them for feeding, roosting and breeding. Hence, restoration of mangroves along with adaptive livelihood and study of biodiversity of Dharamtar Creek on Amba River is being carried out at Dolvi, Maharashtra. Community Fish Ponds, Fish Culture, Tailoring and Jute bag making are some of the sustainable livelihood activities being implemented through this project. A total of 85 hectares spread over 45 villages have been planted with over 4,00,000 mangrove seedlings in two phases. Thanks to the support through the CSR initiative of Jindal Steel Works at Dolvi.



## Protect Pond Dykes against erosion through Mangrove afforestation

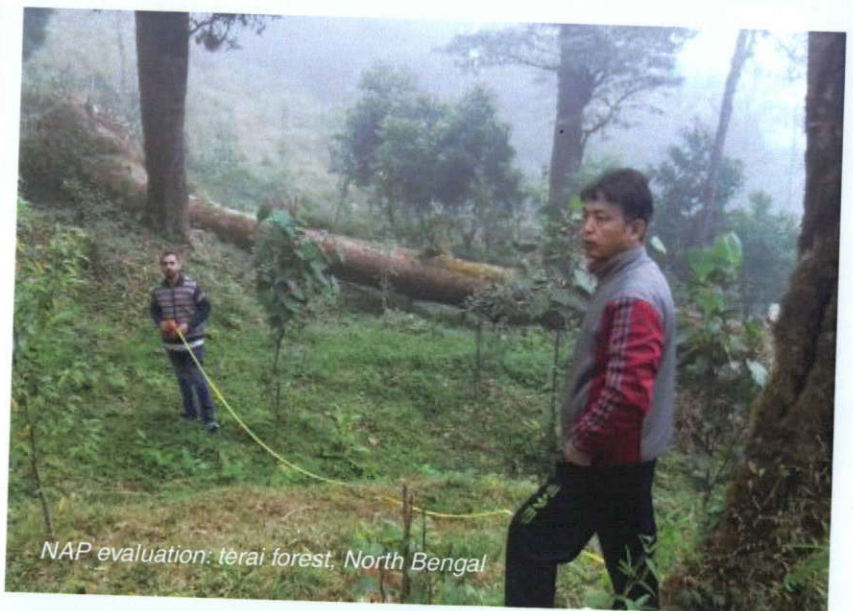
West Bengal Traditional Black Tiger (WTBT) project was implemented in Andulpota, Basirhat, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal, in association with Ristic, GmbH, Hofer KG and Organic Services Germany. The activities involved Mangrove afforestation, awareness building, formation and training of women group and land owners and preparation of Mangrove saplings .



*Mangrove Plantation: Andulpota, North 24 Parganas*

## Concurrent Evaluation of National Afforestation Programme, funded by West Bengal State Forest Development Agency

This is a project implemented by 20 Forest Development Agencies (FDA) under West Bengal State Forest Development Agency. 14 Forest Divisions were assigned to NEWS. Presently, National Afforestation Programme (NAP) evaluation is being carried out by the team of NEWS.



*NAP evaluation: terai forest, North Bengal*

## Rehabilitation and protection of tropical mangrove ecosystems as a contribution to climate and coastal protection, to conserve the biodiversity in India and Sri Lanka

To make a significant and vital contribution to climate protection, along with several programmes of Afforestation, Income Generation activities like Avenue Plantation, Nutritional Kitchen Gardening, improved 'Chullas' (cooking stoves), and Backyard Poultry Farming is being implemented in partnership with Global Nature Fund. The project is being implemented in Sundarban, West Bengal, India. In Sri Lanka too the project is being carried out by two of the partners of Global Nature Fund. The activities in West Bengal involve training and implementation of income generation activities such as training of large number of mangrove stewards in Nutrition Garden, inoculation of seeds, preparation of Bio-Pesticides, Liquid Fertilizer, Vermicompost, Backyard Poultry, Integrated Fish Farming etc. Improved 'Chullas' (cooking stoves) and Best Practices in Agriculture are constantly being promoted.



*Mangrove Nursery – Lakshmipur, Sundarban*



*Mangrove Plantation: Amlamethi site, Sundarban*

## Developing Mangrove Stewardship through Income Generating Activities contributing to Long Term Protection of Mangroves in Sundarban

Long Time Protection (LTP) of the Mangroves support key areas under threat like grazing, felling, encroachment for fishery, use of mosquito nets for fishing etc. through capacity building such as mangrove monitoring by the communities, sustainable river fishing practices, educational campaigns among local schools to address and find solutions to mitigate various threats. Hence, this innovative project is being implemented with the support of Livelihoods Fund to assure long term protection of mangroves in Sundarban through sustainable climate smart income generation activities. The project activities consist of formation of village committees, fishermen's committee, eco clubs etc. In addition, relevant trainings are being conducted in collaboration with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), for vermicompost, pisciculture etc. In order to assure long term sustainability, NEWS has facilitated formation of a producer company called 'Badabon Farmers Producer Company Limited', which is governed and managed by the farmers themselves. The company is a platform for farmers to sell their produce in the market where they would be able to get a good/fair price.



*Products of Badabon Harvest*

### **“Badabon Harvest”**

As an integral part of the long term sustainability, the brand of 'Badabon Harvest', which is owned by the Badabon Farmers Producer Company Limited is being extensively promoted through this project, in collaboration with BoP Innovation Centre, Netherlands with the support of our funding partner, Livelihood, Paris.



*Mangrove Monitoring, Kakdwip, Sundarban*

### **Restoration of Mangroves in Sundarban through Afforestation, Integrated Mangrove Shrimp Farming, Income Generation (Honey) and community participation**

The project is being implemented in partnership with Aldi Süd, Ristic GmbH, KFW, DEG, Shore and Blue sensus, Germany. A total of 18 hectares of Mangrove Afforestation in Buraburi Tot and 12.04 ha in Lakshmipur, Sundarban, West Bengal, has been completed. A Honey processing Unit is being established at Samshernagar, Sundarban, for conservation and scientific orientation towards the traditional practice of wild honey collection from the tiger land by the 'Mouli' tribe of Sundarban. A women's group consisting of 21 members has been created at the Buraburir Tot in Sundarban, named 'Srijoni Badaban Sevika'. As part of Integrated Mangrove Aquaculture (IMA), the site has been selected at Madhavpur, Block Kultali, Sundarban Biosphere Reserve and a detailed plan for the IMA implementation has been prepared.

## Building resilience of the Coastal Communities of Bhitarkanika, Odisha through increased livelihood security

With the involvement of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) – Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (CIFA) Bhubaneshwar, a project where trainings on climate smart agriculture such as bio-pesticides, liquid compost, scientific pisciculture, pond management, fish feed preparation, single line transplantation for rice cultivation and multi cropping were provided to the farmers at the Bhitarkanika Wildlife Sanctuary in Odisha. A farmer's field school too has been established. In addition to this 35 households in 6 villages were provided sanitation facilities.



*low cost Vermicompost Model- Dangamal, Odisha*



*Monitoring fish growth in freshwater ponds: Kumirmari, Sundarban*

## Supporting enterprises in Sundarban in Kumirmari village, Sundarban Tiger Reserve

Funded by Royal Bank of Scotland, the project is aimed at reducing the pressure on forest resources and biodiversity, by sustainable livelihood augmentation of the dependent community. A shift from the capture to culture fishery for the dependent community with focus on fishery based enterprise development is the thrust area. Hence, village level committee with 50 beneficiaries have been formed. A Nature Club involving students and teachers too has been established. Further, trainings on Single Line Transplantation, Integrated scientific aquaculture and Fish Farming, inoculation of seeds, preparation and application of Vermicompost, bio-pesticides and liquid manure, to the beneficiaries of the project have been given and improved 'Chullas' (cook stoves) have been installed.

## Augmentation of alternative livelihood options of fishermen through comprehensive development (integrated farming) in Balagarh Block as Pilot-1 of District Project Management Unit (DPMU), Hooghly, under WBADMI Project, as part of Hilsa conservation strategy



*Stakeholder's  
Group Discussion:  
Balagarh, Hooghly.*

This project intervention is a conservation linked livelihood development programme in respect of the ban on river fishing as a consequence of declaring the zone as "Hilsa Sanctuary", which is a part of the Hilsa conservation strategy. The project has two parts to it, while one part covers fisheries based at Dumurdaha Takipara Fish Cooperative Society, the other part aims to create alternate fishing ground along with regeneration of fish resources through an ecosystem-based approach simultaneously providing enhanced micro-irrigation facility to agricultural land through re-excavation of Behula river connecting canal at Sija – Kamalpur. It is to have a more meaningful and cumulative impact in terms of livelihood augmentation and fisheries resource regeneration. Some of the additional income generating avenues include Establishment of pearl culture unit, Aerial horticulture, Carp hatchery unit, Construction of feed mill, Development of fruit tree nursery, Establishment of vermicompost units, Jute retting with microbial consortium, etc..



### Wildlife Conservation

NEWS has conducted well documented biodiversity study on several endangered species like Bengal Vulture, Gangetic Dolphin, Marsh Mongoose, Olive Ridley Turtle, Bengal Florican, Indian Wolf, Clouded Leopard, Hodgson's Flying Squirrel, Lesser Cats, Goliath Heron, Himalayan Newt to name a few. The study was conducted in both protected and non-protected areas which include Sundarban Biosphere Reserve, Buxa Tiger Reserve, Neora Valley National Park, Mahananda wildlife Sanctuary and 16 selected wetlands.



*Fishing Cat: Prionailurus viverrinus*

### **Status Survey of Fishing Cat (*Prionailurus viverrinus*; Bennet, 1833, Carnivora: Felidae) with special reference to their distribution and abundance in wetland habitats in West Bengal, India**

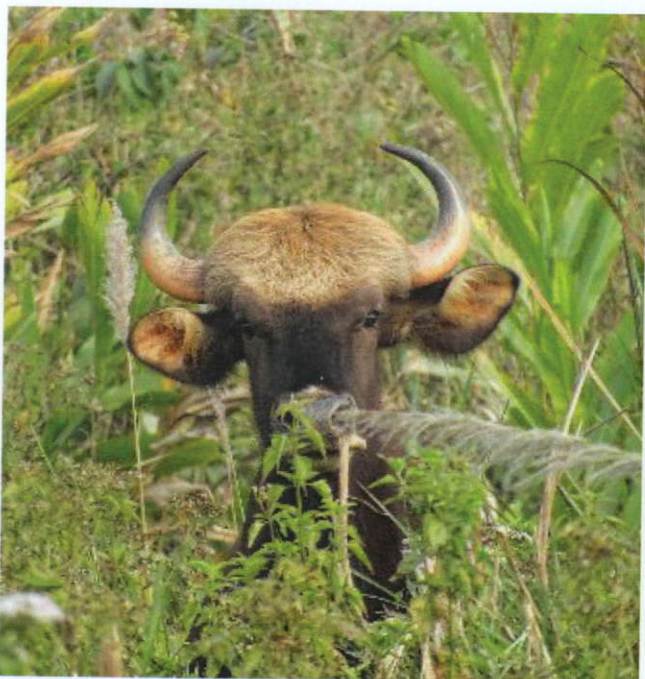
The project is funded by the West Bengal Biodiversity Board and is being implemented by Dept. of Zoology - University of Calcutta, Zoological Survey of India and NEWS - Kolkata. Awareness trainings are given to the local communities to monitor the whole trapping process along with data analysis to estimate the population and habitat preference with deployment of trap cameras. Awareness building seminars are also being done in colleges to involve the students. Simultaneous surveys are going on in South and North Bengal. Camera traps have been put in new locations of 24 Parganas - South and North, Nadia, Hooghly, Howrah and Purba Medinipur and some positive feedbacks have been received. With the help of Forest Department, Govt. of West Bengal, the data generation for Fishing Cat capture, poaching, road kills etc. of the State Animal are being done.



*Trap cage for Jackals at NSCBI Airport, Kolkata*

### **Rehabilitation of Jackals from Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport**

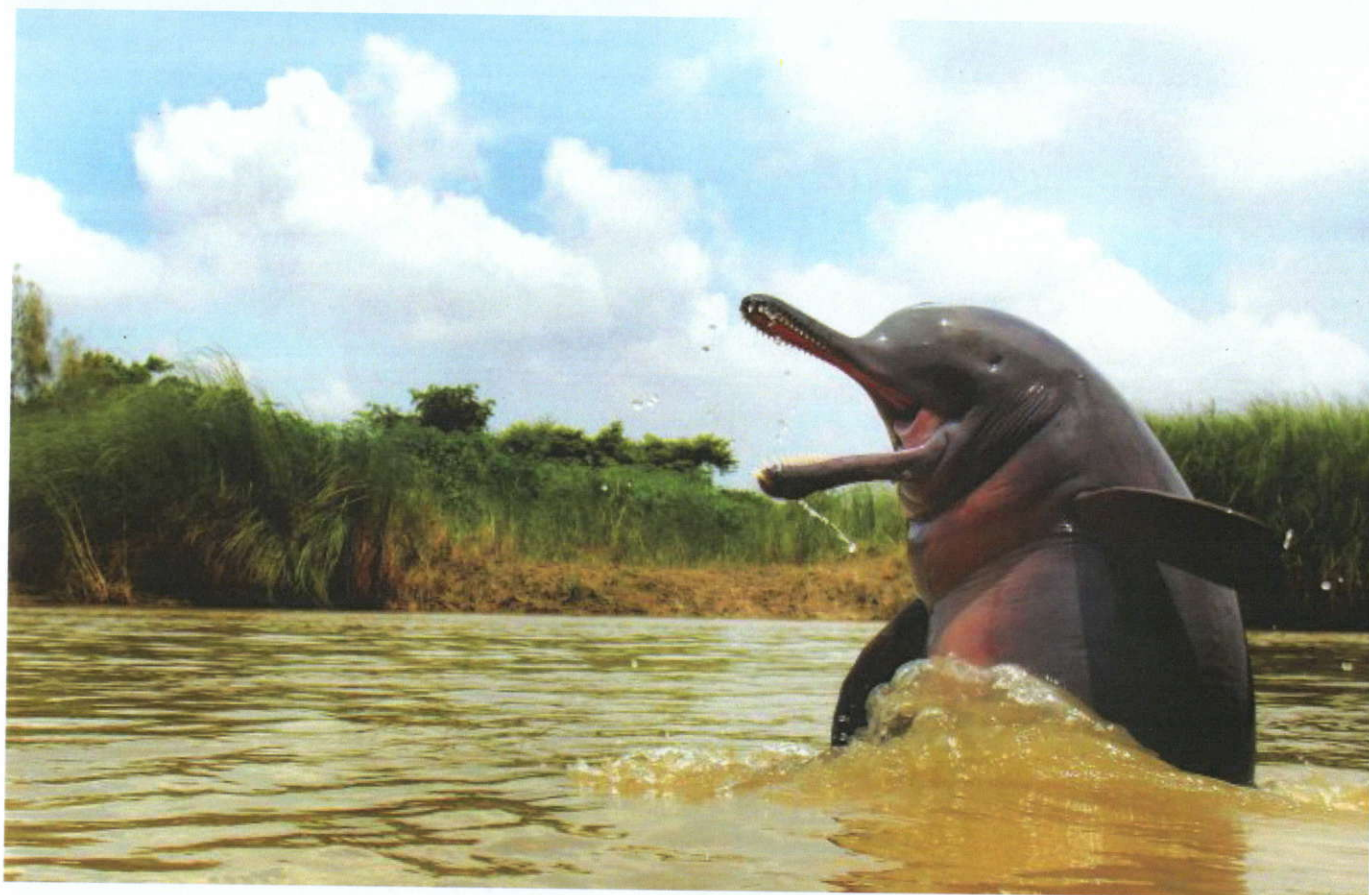
A two year long project was started to find solution to Jackal proliferation that had become a menace at and around the terminal and operational areas of the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport and rehabilitate them elsewhere. Different methods like trapping through cage, closing up different passages, regular clearing of the debris, radio collaring etc. are used in trapping and tracing their habitat. It is being coordinated closely with the Forest Department, Government of West Bengal.



*Herbivore habitat management assessment in North Bengal*

## Impact of Habitat Management Practices

The project would require the next three years to study canopy manipulation and grassland restoration, on the habitat use of herbivores and their carrying capacity in Jaldapara NP, Gorumara NP and Mahananda WLS. Japan International Corporation Agency (JICA) along with West Bengal Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Project (WBFBCP) are partners in conducting this study. Into the first year of the project, impact of the grassland restoration in Jaldapara NP has been carried out. All the documents from the Forest Department archive has been reviewed and the repeated plantation zone has been identified and selected for further studies like vegetation details, soil microbes and animal density etc.



*Gangetic Dolphin: Ajay-Hooghly confluence, East Burdwan*

## Conservation of Gangetic Dolphins and Gharials in the confluence of River Ganga and Ajay

With members and patron's support, NEWS is regularly conducting awareness campaigns on the two most important species in the Bhagirathi Hooghly riverine ecosystem. It has been instrumental in release of Flap-shelled tortoises in the Bhagirathi Hooghly River and rescue of dolphins.

## Seminars and Conferences

NEWS organised various seminars and conferences and also participated in state, national and international arena on issues related to mangrove conservation, wildlife protection, environment pollution, women empowerment and constantly brainstormed within the organisation on varied issues to have a robust policy and strategy with respect to activities related to conservation, livelihood thereby building resilience of the communities for a sustainable planet.



*Mangrove Workshop: Ambalangoda, Sri Lanka*

### Seminar on rehabilitation and protection of tropical mangrove ecosystem in Sri Lanka

Workshop for Rehabilitation and protection of tropical mangrove ecosystem was held from March 18 - 23, 2018 at Ambalangoda, Sri Lanka. The workshop was arranged at Nagenahiru Education Centre. India was represented by NEWS & CReNIEO and EMACE from Sri Lanka. NEWS delegation was consisted of Ms. Ajanta Dey, Dr. Chandrima Sinha, Mr. Keshab Ghosh and Mr. Biswajit Mondal. Mr. Thies Geertz and Laura Maeso Velasco represented Global Nature Fund, Germany, at the workshop.



*NEWS representation: Marketplace Paris in context of Climate Summit, Paris around creating value chain in mangroves*

### Market Place and workshop in Paris

NEWS delegation, consisting of Mr. Biswajit Roy Chowdhury, Secretary, Ms. Ajanta Dey, Joint Secretary and Programme Director, Mr. Sukanta Gayen, Project Manager, and Ms. Jayashree Roy Chowdhury, Head, Administration, participated at the 'Market Place' to showcase the activities and produces in Sundarban. It was highly appreciated by about thousand visitors. The Market Place was arranged at the exhibition room of Hermes, Paris. The team also took active part at workshop to discuss about best livelihood practices. The event was a curtain raiser of the forthcoming Climate Summit, Paris. The Market Place and the workshop were organised by 'Livelihoods', Paris.

### Training Workshop for Carbon Measurement

A seven day workshop was organized by NEWS at Sundarban to impart training for measuring Carbon sequestration by mangroves from February 11 - 19, 2018. The resource person was Mr. Matthias Seebauer from UNIQUE forestry and land use GmbH, Germany.



*Training on carbon measurement mangroves: Canning, Sundarban*

### Stakeholder workshop on 'Synergy for Biodiversity Conservation and Fisheries based Enterprise Development in Sundarban Tiger Reserve'

Stakeholder workshop on 'Synergy for Biodiversity Conservation and Fisheries based Enterprise Development in Sundarban Tiger Reserve' was held on 10th January, 2018 at the Presidential Hall, Hotel Middleton Chambers, Kolkata to mark the inauguration of the project, 'Supporting Enterprise in Sundarban Tiger Reserve' funded by Royal Bank of Scotland Foundation India.



*Inaugural Workshop: Supporting Enterprises around mangrove value chain- Kolkata*



*Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Workshop: Kolkata*

### Seminar on wildlife conflict mitigation in India

Field Biologist Ms. Ranjana Saha of NEWS participated at the workshop on wildlife conflict mitigation in India, which was held at JW Marriot, Kolkata on April 03, 2018, organised by Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Germany and MoEF, Govt. of India.

### Monitoring of mangroves

Mangrove Plantation done by NEWS in Sundarban, South 24 Parganas was evaluated by a team of experts from Botanical Survey of India (BSI) during 29 - 31 March, 2018.



*BSI team monitoring mangrove plantation of NEWS,*

## Workshop on wildlife management

As a part of collaborative project, 'Status Survey of Fishing Cat (*Prionailurus viverrinus*) Bennet, 1833 (Carnivora: Felidae) with special reference to their distribution and abundance in the wetland habitats in West Bengal, India', sponsored by the West Bengal Biodiversity Board, a workshop to demonstrate different technologies and methodologies on wildlife management was organised at Diamond Harbour Women's University under the guidance of the Field Biologist of the Society - Ms. Ranjana Saha and other experts.



Awareness Workshop: Diamond Harbour, Kolkata



Training farmers of Bhitarkanika at ICAR-CIFA, Bhubaneswar.

## Workshop on 'Building Resilience of the Coastal Communities'

The Society took part in the workshop held in Bhubaneswar, Odhisa, on Building resilience of the coastal communities of Bhitarkanika organised by ICAR-CIFA in July, 2017. Mr. Chandan Maity, Field Officer, NEWS, represented the Society at the workshop.



US consulate, Kolkata organising workshop in east Kolkata wetland, Kolkata

A workshop cum field training on 'Urban Sustainability and Role of Wetlands' was organized by NEWS in association with US Consulate, Kolkata on October 31, 2017 at Kolkata, West Bengal, India.

A day-long workshop on “Promoting Social Entrepreneurship amongst Youth” was organized by the US Consulate, Kolkata in collaboration with the NEWS, Kolkata in partnership with the Department of Women's Studies, Gauhati University and Department of Social Work, University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya on 6th November, 2017 at the Seminar Hall – III, Gauhati University Institute of Science and Technology.



*Workshop: Guwahati, Assam*



*Workshop: Ranchi, Assam*

A one day workshop on “Women as motivators for skills development and social entrepreneurship” was organized by the US Consulate, Kolkata in collaboration with the NEWS, Kolkata in partnership with Ranchi Based organisation “South Vihar Welfare Society for Tribal (Ashray)” on 23rd December, 2017 at Hotel AVN Plaza, Ranchi Station Road, Jharkhand.

## Events



*Earth Day Celebration: East Kolkata Wetlands, Kolkata*

### Earth Day Celebration

Earth day was celebrated with the employees of NOVOTEL Group of Hotels through a citizen science training programme which took place at East Kolkata Wetlands.



*International Mangrove Day- Sagar island, Sundarban*

### **International Biodiversity week celebration at East Kolkata Wetlands (EKW)**

The Society celebrated '25 years of Biodiversity Day' on 26th May, 2018, with the members at the East Kolkata Wetlands through a walk and talk session where pre-monsoon water quality parameters were measured and biodiversity was studied.



*World Environment Day, 2017- EKW, Kolkata*

### **Tiger Census**

The Field Biologist of NEWS Ms. Ranjana Saha along with the member of the Governing Body Mr. Abdul Kader Kagalwala, office staffs Mr. Rahul Pal and Mr. Ganesh Chowdhury volunteered in the Tiger Census exercise conducted by Forest Deptt., Govt. of West Bengal, in the Sundarban Tiger Reserve as a part of "All India Tiger Census, 2018".

### **International Mangrove Day Celebration**

International Mangrove Day was celebrated by planting mangroves and spreading awareness at Sumati Nagar in Sagar island on 26th July, 2017 involving the villagers and stakeholders. It was a part of the activities under project funded by Global Nature Fund, German Cooperation and Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation & Development.



*Walk-n'-talk session EKW, Kolkata*

### **World Environment Day**

One day Citizen Science Programme was organised by the Society at East Kolkata Wetlands involving the students of Sukantanagar Vidyaniketan High School and employees of Novotel on 5th June, 2017, on the occasion of World Environment Day.



*NEWS, in Tiger census, Sundarban*



*Field Farmers School inauguration by Minister of Agriculture, Kultali, Sundarban*

### Inauguration of Farmer Field School

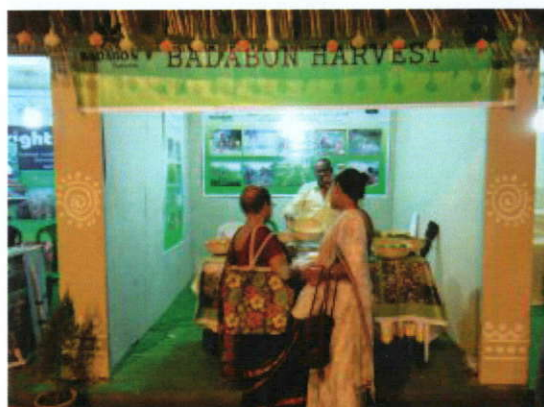
A Field School for Farmers, initiated by NEWS and local villagers was inaugurated at Gorankathi, Kultali by the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge, Agriculture Department, Govt. of W.B., Mr Purnendu Basu on 19th July, 2017 under the programmes of Livelihoods, Paris.

### Environment Awareness Programme

Environment Awareness Programme was done on 1st July, 2019 through plantation of trees at the St. Paul's Cathedral, Kolkata involving the Church Authority and employees of Sanofi Pharmaceuticals. Certificates were distributed among 88 participants.



*Plantation at St. Pauls Cathedral, Kolkata*



*Krishi Mela: Kolkata*

### Krishi Mela (Agriculture Fair)

NEWS and 'Badabon Harvest' took part in 'Krishi Mela' in order to exhibit the pesticide-free agro-products and thus sensitise the common people which took place on 23rd to 26th February, 2018 at Baguiati and Paikpara, Kolkata, as part of the activities under Livelihoods, Paris.

### Release of Book

Dr. J.R.B Alfred and Mr. Biswajit Roy Chowdhury, co-authors of the publication, "Faunal Diversity of Sundarban" were present on the event of release ceremony of the book held at Zoological Survey of India. The Secretary, Minister of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, Dr. Kailash Chandra, Director of ZSI, eminent scientist Dr. Amalesh Chowdhury, Mr. Ravikant Sinha, PCCF, Wildlife, Govt. of W.B. were present at the function on 1st July, 2017.



*Book Release at ZSI*



*NEWS stall at Kolkata Book Fair -2018*

### Participation in Kolkata Book Fair

Alike every year, the Society took part in Kolkata International Book Fair by way of making a stall which displayed the various activities of the Society and books on relevant fields. It attracted thousands of enthusiastic visitors.

### Talk at the International Book Fair, New Delhi

The Secretary of the Society, Mr. Biswajit Roy Chowdhury was invited to deliver a talk on Climate Change at the Main Auditorium at the International Book Fair at the Pragati Maidan, New Delhi on 16th January, 2018.



*Butterfly Park, Texmaco ground, Belgharia*

### Development of Butterfly Park

As a part CSR initiative of Texmaco, NEWS has created a butterfly park within their factory premises of Belghoria which is partly enclosed and partly open air. The park was inaugurated on 24th June by Smt. Jyotsna Poddar, the First Lady of Aventz Group. The uniqueness of the Texmaco Butterfly Park lies in its location. The Park with the water body running through adds to the green ambience producing oxygen right in the middle of offices and factories.

### Photography Exhibition

A wildlife photography exhibition of our Secretary Mr. Biswajit Roy Chowdhury and Member of Governing Body Mr. Shiladitya Choudhury and Mr. Dhiman Ghosh was organised at ITC Sonar authority in the memory of Late Sumit Sen of The Times of India. At the opening ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Craig Hall, Consulate General of US in Kolkata, Dr. Kailash Chandra, Director, ZSI and eminent film personalities, Ms. Gargi Roy Chowdhury, Ms. Pallavi Chatterjee and Mr. Badsha Moita were present.



*Photography Exhibition: ITC Sonar Bangla, Kolkata*

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT****To the Members of Nature Environment & Wildlife Society****1. Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying Financial Statements of **Nature Environment & Wildlife Society** ("the Society"), which comprise the Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2018, and the Income & Expenditure Account and the Receipts and Payments Account for the year then ended, and the accompanying schedules.

**2. Members' Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

The members are responsible for the preparation of these financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position, financial performance of the Society. This responsibility includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

**3. Auditors' Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on Auditing issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Society's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Society's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used & reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by the Society, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.



**4. Opinion**

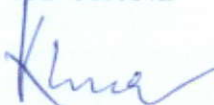
In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the financial statements give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India:

- (a) in the case of the Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the Society as at March 31, 2018
- (b) in the case of the Income & Expenditure Account, of the income & expenditure of the Society for the year ended on that date.
- (c) in the case of the Receipts and Payments Account, of the receipts and payments of the Society for the year ended on that date.

**5. Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements**

- a. We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit;
- b. In our opinion proper books of account have been kept by the Society so far as appears from our examination of those books ;
- c. The Balance Sheet, Income & Expenditure Account, Receipts & Payments Account dealt with by this Report are in agreement with the books of account.

**For KGRS & Co.**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
**FRN 310014E**



**(K. Dutta)**  
**Partner**  
**Membership No 53790**



**Place: Kolkata**  
**Date: June 18, 2018**

**Nature Environment & Wildlife Society**  
**Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2018**

(In Rupees)

Particulars	Schedule	As at 31st March 2018
<b>SOURCES OF FUND</b>		
Unrestricted Funds		
General Fund	1	18,67,265
Current Liabilities		
Loan from members		5,59,847
Liability for expenses		1,85,29,026
Unutilised Grant		
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,09,56,138</b>
<b>APPLICATION OF FUND</b>		
Fixed Assets	2	6,16,687
<u>Current Assets, Loans and Advances</u>		
Loans & Advances	3	6,47,276
Cash and Bank Balances	4	1,44,37,003
Grant receivable		50,99,914
TDS Receivable		1,55,258
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,09,56,138</b>
Significant Accounting Policies	6	

In terms of our report of even date  
For KGRS & Co  
Chartered Accountants  
FRN: 310014E



(K Dutta)  
Partner  
Membership No.53790

Place : Kolkata  
Date : June 18, 2018

For and on behalf of the Society

*[Signature]* Ajanta Ray



**Nature Environment & Wildlife Society**  
**Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March, 2018**

		(In Rupees)
Particulars	Schedule	2017-18
<b>INCOME</b>		
Grant Income	5	1,88,07,611
Interest from Bank		96,620
Donation Received		13,27,874
Miscellaneous receipts		31,320
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,02,63,425</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Project Personnel Cost		84,24,247
Plantation Expenses		10,12,348
Travel & Transport		50,08,944
Campaigns & Awareness programme expenses ( including workshop expenses)		34,43,749
Communication Expenses		1,22,563
Office Expenses		15,40,037
Depreciation on fixed assets		1,44,619
Audit fees		29,500
Other expenses		76,851
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,98,02,858</b>
Excess of income over expenditure		4,60,567
<b>Significant Accounting Policies</b>	6	

In terms of our report of even date

**For KGRS & Co**

**Chartered Accountants**

**FRN: 310014E**

*K Dutta*  


**(K Dutta)**

**Partner**

**Membership No.53790**

**Place : Kolkata**

**Date : June 18 , 2018**

**For and on behalf of the Society**

*Shaidi Ajaite Roy*



**Nature Environment & Wildlife Society**  
**Receipts & Payments Account for the year ended 31 March, 2018**

(In Rupees)

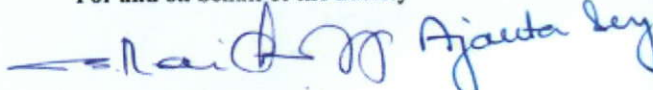
Particulars	Schedule	2017-18
<b>Receipts</b>		
<b>Balances at the beginning of the year</b>		
Cash		1,07,360
Bank		14,01,650
Liability for expenses		(5,44,295)
Grant Received	5	3,17,59,121
Donation		13,27,874
Interest from Bank		96,620
Miscellaneous receipts		31,320
<b>Total</b>		<b>3,41,79,650</b>
<b>Payments</b>		
Project Personnel Cost		84,24,247
Plantation Expenses		10,12,348
Travel & Transport		50,08,944
Campaigns & Awareness programme expenses ( including workshop expenses)		34,43,749
Communication Expenses		1,22,563
Office Expenses		15,40,037
Audit Fees		29,500
Other expenses		76,851
Purchase of fixed assets		92,890
Repayment of loan to members		67,000
Project/Staff advances		4,84,365
<b>Balances at the closing</b>		
Cash		1,35,072
Bank		1,43,01,931
Liability for expenses		(5,59,847)
<b>Total</b>		<b>3,41,79,650</b>
<b>Significant Accounting Policies</b>	6	

In terms of our report of even date  
**For KGRS & Co**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
**FRN : 310014E**

  
**(K Dutta)**  
 Partner  
 Membership No.53790

**Place : Kolkata**  
**Date : June 18, 2018**

**For and on behalf of the Society**





**Nature Environment & Wildlife Society**  
Schedules forming part of the financial statements

Nature Environment & Wildlife Society, a society registered with the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 was established in 1991 to promote awareness among people about conservation of nature, environment and wildlife.

*All amounts in Rs unless otherwise specified*

Particulars	As at 31st March 2018
<b>Schedule 1: General Fund</b>	
Opening balance	14,06,698
Add: Excess/(Deficit) in Income & Expenditure Account	4,60,567
Closing Balance	<b>18,67,265</b>

**Schedule 2: Fixed Assets**

Name of the Asset	Written Down Value as on 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2017	Additions during the year	Sales during the year	Depreciation for the year	Written Down Value as on 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2018
Plant & Machinery	4,93,233			73,985	4,19,248
Computer	1,15,127			46,051	69,076
Books & Periodicals	9,383			938	8,445
Furniture & Fixture	50,673	92,890		23,645	1,19,918
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,68,416</b>	<b>92,890</b>		<b>1,44,619</b>	<b>6,16,687</b>

**Schedule 3: Loans & Advances**

Particulars	As at 31st March 2018
Project advances	5,63,414
Security Deposit	83,862
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,47,276</b>

**Schedule 4: Cash & Bank Balances**

Particulars	As at 31st March 2018
Cash in hand	1,35,072
Balances held with Banks	1,43,01,931
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,44,37,003</b>

**Schedule 5: Grant Income**

Particulars	2017-2018
Project- Livelihoods	41,69,310
Project - Fund from East Kolkata	68,200
Project - American Embassy	1,51,340
Project - WTBT	4,11,393
Project - MFF	5,11,719
Project - Global Nature Fund (GNF)	59,83,609
Project - RBS Foundation India	1,30,00,000
Project - Aldi Sud /KFW-DEG	60,80,010
Other Projects	13,83,540
	<b>3,17,59,121</b>
Less: Unutilised grant	1,73,18,404
Add: Grant receivable	43,66,894
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,88,07,611</b>



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**Nature Environment & Wildlife Society**  
**Schedules forming part of the financial statements**

**Schedule 6: Significant Accounting Policies**

**a) Basis of preparation of financial statements**

The Financial Statements are prepared on accrual basis under the historical cost convention.

**b) Fixed Assets**

Fixed assets are stated at cost, net of depreciation. The cost of an asset comprised its purchase price and may cost directly attributable for bringing the asset to its working condition and location for its intended use.

**c) Depreciation**

Depreciation on Fixed Assets is provided on Written down Value Method at the rates specified in the Income Tax Act, 1961.

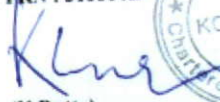
Depreciation of assets acquired during the year is provided on proportionate basis.

**d) Revenue Recognition**

Grants in aid is recognised in the Income & Expenditure Account to the extent utilised for the purpose of the project. The unutilised balance of Grants in aid, if any is carried forward in the Balance Sheet.

Membership Fees and subscription have been recognized in the financial statements only at the stage it attains reasonable assurance, on the basis of all available evidence, that the membership fees will be received.

In terms of our report of even date  
For KGRS & Co  
Chartered Accountants  
FRN : 310014E

  
(K Dutta)  
Partner  
Membership No.53790

Place : Kolkata  
Date : June 18, 2018

For and on behalf of the Society





## **List of Governing Body Members**

<b>President</b>	Dr. J.R.B Alfred
<b>Vice- President</b>	Dr. H.S. Debnath
<b>Secretary</b>	Mr. Biswajit Roy Chowdhury
<b>Joint Secretary and Programme Director</b>	Ms. Ajanta Dey
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mr. Subhasis Basu
<b>Members</b>	Dr. Twisha Lahiri Dr. Manas Ranjan Roy Ms. Raka Kar Mr. Partha Sadhan Bose Mr. Abdul kader Kagalwala Mr. Shiladitya Chaudhury Mr. Shubhendu Banerjee Mr. T.K. Chakrabarty



## Nature Environment & Wildlife Society

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India

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E-mail : [contact@naturewildlife.org](mailto:contact@naturewildlife.org)

Website : [www.naturewildlife.org](http://www.naturewildlife.org)