



NATURE ENVIRONMENT & WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Nature Environment & Wildlife Society (NEWS) is a non-profit dedicated to biodiversity conservation across India's diverse ecosystems. For over three decades, NEWS has pioneered science-driven, inclusive approaches for ecosystem restoration, protecting biodiversity while empowering local communities to build a sustainable and resilient future.

OUR VISION

We imagine a world where people value and care for nature to thrive across generations.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to co-create evidence-based models and strategies through partnerships and stewardship to conserve biodiversity and sustainably manage natural resources for a transformative change that ensures functional ecosystems and resilient communities.



Established in 1991 and headquartered in Kolkata, NEWS operates across multiple Indian states, with 35 years of impact including restoring 5,000+ hectares of mangroves and mobilizing over 10,000 women.

OUR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Conservation – Protecting and restoring species, habitats, and ecosystems through research and evidence-based models

Evaluation – Measuring and monitoring ecosystem services to enable sustainable use

Resilience – Addressing climate risks through adaptive, nature-based solutions

Awareness – Building environmental literacy through education and advocacy

Synergy – Partnering with governments, corporates, academia, and communities

Stewardship – Enabling community ownership and co-management of natural resources



MEMBER NETWORK

Global Mangrove
Alliance (GMA)

Living Lakes
Network

Global Environment
Facility (GEF)

Indian National
Committee of IUCN

Asian Venture
Philanthropy Network





Conserving Biodiversity and Ecology

Safeguarding vital ecosystems and species to protect biodiversity, mitigate climate change and enhance human well-being.



Organizational Health

Fostering an inclusive, equitable and culturally aware organization that attracts and empowers diverse talent and ensures financial and operational resilience.

CROSS-CUTTING GOALS



Climate Change

Climate resilience practices are integrated into conservation planning across NEWS project sites to enhance the resilience of ecosystems and communities to climate change impacts



Gender Inclusion

Gender considerations are integrated into conservation planning through gender assessments, inclusive management practices, and project designs that empower women to transform into agencies

OUR PROGRAM GOALS



Sustainable Natural Resource Management

Promoting sustainable management of soil, water and biodiversity to support ecosystem health, livelihoods and socio-economic well-being.



Translating Knowledge into Action

Strengthening conservation policy and practice by leveraging knowledge and partnerships to accelerate impact.



Mangrove restoration



Sustainable jaggery value chain



Knowledge dissemination workshop about Eco-tourism and Learnings



Theory of change workshop with NEWS team



NEWS HAS PARTNERED WITH

Government Agencies & Embassies

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC); West Bengal Forest Department, Tamil Nadu Forest Department; Water Resources Investigation and Development Department, Government of West Bengal; West Bengal Biodiversity Board; Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany; KFW (DEG); Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial (FFEM), Government of France; British Deputy High Commission, Kolkata; U.S. Consulate General, Kolkata

Corporate & Foundation Partners

Fondation CHANEL; Axis Bank Limited; The Nature Conservancy; SBI Foundation; Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC); Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL), CRISIL Foundation; SMFG India Credit; Tata Martrade International Logistics Limited (TMILL); Petronet LNG Limited; Dasra (Impact Foundation India); Nature & Wildlife Foundation

International & Non- Profit Partners

Livelihoods Fund (Paris); Global Nature Fund (Germany); One Tree Planted; Terre des hommes Germany – India Programme; IUCN; Global Mangrove Alliance; Living Lakes Network; Naturschutzbund Deutschland e.V. (NABU); Blue Sensus

Research & Academic Institutions

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR): ICAR-CIBA; ICAR-CIFA; ICAR-CIFRI; CSSRI; Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research, Kolkata; Seacom Skills University, Birbhum; Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), Burdwan University; University of Calcutta; Jadavpur University; Zoological Survey of India; Botanical Survey of India



INSTRUMENTING TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE



From waters to seeds, women nurture life and sustain the future



Where nature thrives in harmony—people, wildlife, and landscapes stay connected

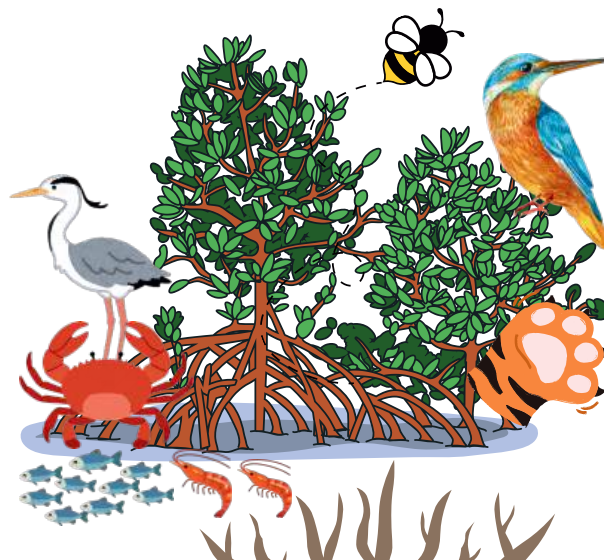
NEWS IS ALSO RECOGNIZED MEMBER OF

West Bengal State Wildlife Board | Mangrove Cell | The State Coastal Zone Management Authority (SCZMA) | State Animal Welfare Board | CITES Plant Committee

Our projects and programmes are directed towards

Restoring Landscapes *Coastal Wetland Restoration*

- Scientific and participatory mangrove ecosystem restoration, driven by communities in more than 5,000 hectares over last 15 years in Sundarban, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu, India. Implemented the first largest mangrove restoration project in Asia through carbon finance since 2010.



Development of Women-led mangrove nurseries



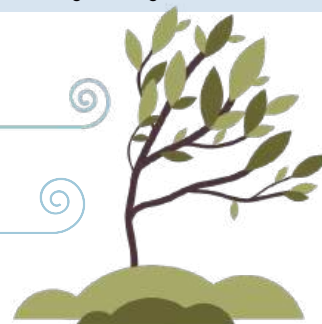
Post plantation survival monitoring



Growth monitoring of mangroves



- Working on ecosystem integrity, blue carbon sequestration and community stewardship through innovative nature-based solutions (NbS) that strengthen coastal resilience and enhance ecosystem services.

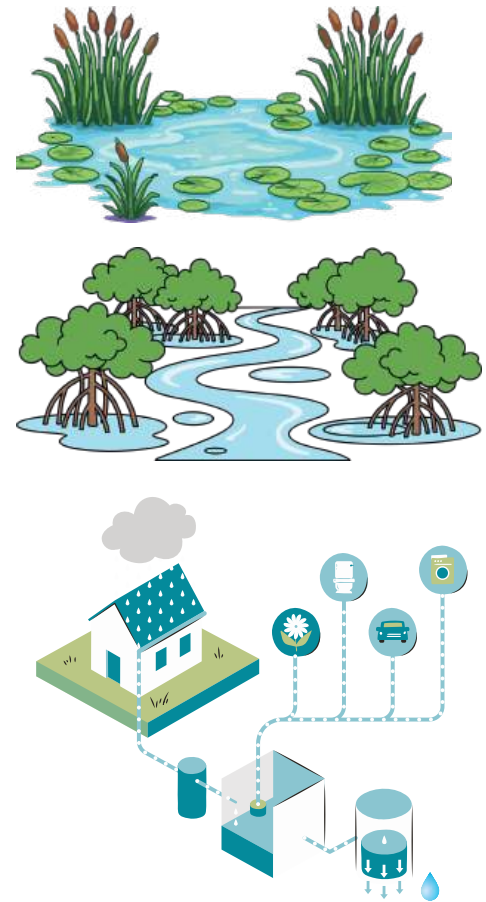


Freshwater Wetland Restoration

- Restoration efforts in Ramsar sites such as Deepor Beel (Assam) and the East Kolkata Wetlands (West Bengal).

Freshwater rejuvenation

- Bioremediation as low-cost nature-based solutions (NbS) to tackle water pollution, solid waste and habitat degradation in Deepor Beel (Assam) and Noai Canal (West Bengal) in the upper delta region of Sundarban.
- Nature-based solutions for water security, including community water management in excavated desilted canals in Sundarban islands, spring water rejuvenation in Darjeeling hills and forming Water User's association for sustained community governance.
- Rainwater harvesting structures in schools and community centres in these targeted areas.
- Restoration of shore landscapes in coastal areas – protecting sand bars and dunes.



Site assessment for bioremediation study
at Noai Canal, West Bengal



Bioremediation of Pamohi River Stretch,
Deepor Beel, Assam



Spring water rejuvenation in Darjeeling district
under West Bengal Accelerated Development
of Minor Irrigation Project (WBADMIIP)

Species Conservation

- Implementation of targeted conservation plans for the Fishing Cat and Golden Monitor Lizard, both serving as ecological indicators of wetland health in West Bengal.
- Sea turtle conservation in Karaikal, Puducherry, through community participation and multi stakeholder's engagement.
- Avian biodiversity research in the East Kolkata Wetlands, in the restored mangrove areas of Sundarban in West Bengal, in Deepor Beel of Assam focusing on bird richness, abundance, and habitat health.
- Dolphin protection through awareness programmes and identifying Dolphin Mitra's (Friends for Dolphin) for stewardship development in West Bengal.
- Conserving mangroves - rare, endangered and threatened species in coastal regions.
- Protecting elephants through flagship community stewardship strategy for co-existence with Gaja Mitras (protectors of elephants) from the local communities.
- Protecting Hilsa fish around the Hilsa sanctuaries through fisher's engagement in alternate and sustainable fishery approaches by working with Water User's associations (WUAs) in Hooghly, Nadia, Bardhaman and North 24 Parganas districts in West Bengal.
- Developed Salamander conservation area in Namthing Pokhari, Kurseong in West Bengal and protecting salamanders through community stewardship; it has now been declared as a Biodiversity Heritage Spot.
- Conserving butterflies and odonates by establishing butterfly park in Texmaco-Eco Park, Belgharia, Kolkata.



Turtle Walks to spread awareness on sea turtle conservation in Karaikal, Puducherry



Dolphin Mitra's



Youth Exploring Biodiversity in Deepor Beel, Assam



Photography during bird-watching session



Reviving the native bee species *Apis cerana indica* in Sundarban, West Bengal

- Conducted research for conservation actions for sea turtles in Sundarban (GOI-UNDP Sea turtle project).
- Conducted research and conservation plans for seven lesser-known endangered animals in the context of West Bengal.
- Conducting study for the conservation of the marsh mongoose in East Kolkata Wetlands.
- Conducting avian studies for conservation action in the Ramsar sites - East Kolkata Wetlands and Sundarban.



Mitigating Human–Wildlife Negative Interactions

- Community-led efforts (Gaja Mitras) through Elephant Protection Groups (EPGs) in the Terai Arc Landscape across Uttar Pradesh and Bihar provide rapid intervention and support to mitigate human–elephant negative interactions, working closely with local communities and the Forest Department. Initiatives are underway in the Kurseong and Baikunthapur Forest Divisions in West Bengal, where Quick Response Teams (QRTs) have contributed to around 80% reduction in negative interactions between humans and elephants.
- Promoting sustainable honey harvesting and safety for human-tiger coexistence in the Sundarban by training and equipping *Moulis* (traditional honey collectors), aligning livelihoods with conservation goals.
- Training and awareness outreach on snakes for safe co-existence in Sundarban and Terai arc landscapes.



Facilitating training for snake conservation and coexistence.



Discussion with forest personnel for mitigation of human wildlife negative interactions in North Bengal



'Gaja Mitras' in action



Sustainable Natural Resource Management



- Promotion of regenerative agriculture, sustainable aquaculture and native livestock management in various landscapes across India, in the states of West Bengal, Assam, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.
- Pioneered the Sustainable Aquaculture in Mangrove Ecosystem (SAIME) model, a proven concept for climate resilience in coastal regions integrating mangroves in shrimp ponds in North and South 24 Parganas districts in West Bengal.
- Supporting sustainable livelihoods by promoting NIA (No to Inorganic) farming, practices in Sundarban and target areas that enhance soil biodiversity.
- Promoting traditional agricultural biodiversity in the Sundarban by conserving 17 indigenous paddy varieties and seasonal vegetable seeds through the Women-led Seed Storage Unit in Gosaba.
- Apiculture initiatives focused on reviving the native bee species *Apis cerana indica* and supporting sustainable honey collection also conserving the wild species, *Apis dorsata*.
- Backyard Poultry Farming has been a viable alternative livelihood for the women engaged in prawn larvae collection in Sundarban and coastal communities in Tamil Nadu.



Preparation of Biofertilizers



Women group engaged in water hyacinth handicraft preparation



Cultivation of indigenous paddy variety



Wild Honey collectors, the 'Moulis' venture into Sundarban tigerland

Photo credits: Shri Dhritiman Mukherjee



Regenerative agriculture practice



Shrimp and fish production in
SAIME ponds



Linking of farmers' group with 'Badabon Harvest'

- Capacity building of farmers and fisher groups for sustained community governance on the four pillars of Group dynamics, Livelihood augmentation, Gender inclusion and Biodiversity conservation.
- Established field farmer's schools and laboratories in the Sundarban to train and empower local farmers in sustainable, biodiversity-friendly agricultural practices using bioinoculants and organic inputs.
- Supporting community-led ecotourism and homestays in the Sundarban to advance local livelihoods, biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resource management.
- Providing market access through value-chain strengthening to enhance benefits for community producer groups and promote sustainable stewardship.
- NEWS in collaboration with Sushayi Krishi Paribar through its 'Badabon Harvest' (<https://badabonharvest.in/>) initiative have strengthened multi-stakeholder partnership for sustainable farming practices and enhanced market access for farmers, especially women.



Empowering women with financial
literacy



Soil testing and seed storage centre supporting sustainable farming



Storage of indigenous paddy seeds



Activities of NEWS across the nation: Multi-sectoral efforts towards a sustainable future

Community Stewardship with Ecosystem-Based Approach

NEWS places local communities at the center of ecosystem management by integrating Indigenous Traditional Knowledge (ITK) and fostering participatory stewardship, especially among women, empowering them as active partners and building their agency to sustainably conserve natural resources and enhance long-term ecological and social resilience.

- Empowering over 70 women-led Farmer Interest Groups and the Green Brigades, promoting gender inclusivity as a foundation for environmental and social resilience.
- Facilitating youth clubs, citizen science initiatives and educational outreach for school children through workshops and awareness programs to deepen community engagement and orientation towards green entrepreneurship.
- Engaging 160 Gaja Mitra (Elephant Protection Group members) in cooperation with the Forest Department of Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary, Uttar Pradesh and Valmiki Tiger Reserve, Bihar to mitigate human-wildlife negative interactions.
- Community stewardships promoted and engaged with the conservation of key flora and fauna species—including rare, endangered and threatened mangrove species, medicinal and native plants and faunal species like Fishing Cats, Golden Monitor Lizards, Sea Turtles, River Dolphins, Elephants, Salamanders, Horse-shoe Crabs, Snakes, 'Hilsa' fish, Birds, Butterflies, Odonates and others—strengthening biodiversity through local knowledge and active participation.



Nature can only be protected when people are secure and empowered



Bird Watching Exercise in East
Kolkata Wetlands



The Green Brigade, dressed in green saris, leads
community-driven mangrove restoration



Youth raising awareness on biodiversity
conservation through street plays

Knowledge Sharing & Policy Advocacy



- Utilizing evidence-based learning (action research) to inform and influence policy decisions through publication of literatures, manuals and case studies.
- Organizing and participating in seminars, workshops and conferences, developing IEC (Information, Education and Communication) materials and publishing research articles to support evidence-based advocacy.
- Policy documentation for government agencies to facilitate nature-based solutions and community integration in resource management.
- Providing technical feasibility assessments to support state agencies, private funding agencies and civil society organisations through a consultative role.
- Providing consultative role in third-party assessments of the plantation of Government agencies.



Highlighting NEWS' activities in national and international seminars/conferences



Knowledge partnership with premier research institutes

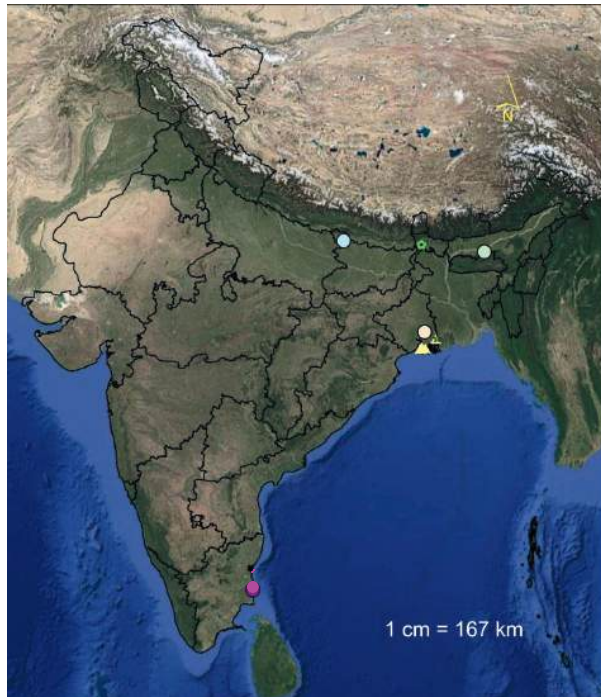


Third-party monitoring of the plantation under WBCAMPA



Providing technical support for feasibility assessments with Nirman, Odisha

NEWS Offices



NEWS State Offices	
	Assam
	Bihar
	West Bengal
	Tamil Nadu
NEWS District Offices	
	North 24 Parganas
	North Bengal, Darjeeling, Siliguri, Jalpaiguri
	South 24 Parganas
	STATE_BOUNDARY

FIELD OFFICES IN WEST BENGAL

- Canning (Canning Block, South 24 Parganas)
- Kumirmari (Gosaba Block, South 24 Parganas)
- Jogeshganj (Hingalganj Block, North 24 Parganas)
- Madhusudanpur (Kakdwip Block, South 24 Parganas)
- Ramganga (Patharpratima Block, South 24 Parganas)
- Rudranagar (Sagar Block, South 24 Parganas)
- Kurseong (Darjeeling district)
- Siliguri (Darjeeling district)
- Jalpaiguri (DPMU)



PARTNERSHIPS





Awards & Recognition

2016 JSW–Times of India Earth Care Award

Recognised for outstanding contribution to environmental conservation and sustainability. Times of India

2025 .ORG Impact Award Winner

in the Environmental Stewardship category, honoring impactful environmental initiatives. Public Interest Registry – .ORG Impact Awards 2025

2025 BSG Awards for Excellence in Sustainability

Winner in Biodiversity & Ecosystem Conservation category.

BSG Sustainability Awards

2025 Global Technical Recognition under Sustainable Aquatic Food Systems Recognized for innovative work in sustainable aquaculture and conservation-linked livelihoods.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) 2025

Local Adaptation Champions Award (Finalist) Finalist in Nature-Based Solutions category. Global Center on Adaptation – LLA Hub



NEWSforNature



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NNaturewildlife



www.naturewildlife.org



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