

# **Table of Contents**

1	Message from the Leadership Board	1
2	About WCG	2
3	Key Highlights of the Year	4
4	Project Reports	
4.	1 Kere Nammadu	5
4.	2 World Environment Day Celebration	10
4.	3 Vanya Vijnana Vihara	15
5	Youth Engagement Programs	18
6	Publications and Outreach	21
7	Financial Summary	23
8	Impact and Reach	25
9	Key Collaborations & Their Contribution	27
10	Challenges Faced	28
11	Way Forward	29
12	Acknowledgments	30
13	Annexures	32

# Message from the Leadership Board

It is with great pride and gratitude that I present this message on behalf of the Wildlife Conservation Group (WCG). Over the past 12 years, WCG has been steadfast in its commitment to nature awareness and conservation. While our journey began with grassroots efforts, our official registration in 2021-22 marked a significant milestone, 80G followed by 124 and certification-enabling us to expand our reach and accept tax-exempt donations for conservation initiatives.

Our strength lies in the passion of our members, many of whom reside along the fringes of forest ecosystems and are deeply committed to giving back to the landscapes that nurture them. This year, we implemented several impactful programs, including **Kere Habba at Wadenakere**, which actively engaged students, local residents, the panchayat, and working professionals in plantation and anti-plastic drives.

A key highlight was the launch of the Vanya Vijnana Vihara initiative, in collaboration with Jungle Lodges and Resorts, which provided government school students around Bannerghatta National Park with immersive nature education experiences. We firmly believe that building awareness is the foundation of conservation, and this program has helped us strengthen our educational outreach efforts.

Our monthly Kannada e-magazine, Kaanana, continues to thrive and inspire. Since celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2020, the magazine has attracted over 100 new contributors, whose thoughtful articles, photographs, and poems have added tremendous value to our conservation dialogue.

I extend heartfelt thanks to Sneha Sampada, Mantapa Grama Panchayat, and the villagers of Kaleshwari for their collaboration in the "Ee Kere Nammadu" project. We are equally grateful to Jungle Lodges and Resorts, the Kaanana editorial team and contributors, our committed WCG members, and above all, our dedicated volunteers, whose efforts continue to drive our mission forward.

As we move ahead, we remain committed to deepening our engagement with communities and scaling our nature awareness and conservation programs with renewed dedication.

Yours naturely, Nagesh O S Vice President Wildlife Conservation Group





The Wildlife Conservation Group (WCG) was founded in 2010 through the collective efforts of Dr. Ashwatha K. N. and Mr. K. P. Shankarappa. Their vision was soon embraced by a group of passionate nature enthusiasts living along the fringes of the Bannerghatta forests, who came together to form a grassroots movement rooted in conservation and ecological awareness.

What began as an informal network of volunteers has since evolved into a registered NGO, officially recognized in 2021-22, and committed to nature awareness, community engagement, and conservation efforts across Karnataka.

Over the years, WCG has mobilized local communities, students, and professionals through hands-on initiatives such as biodiversity documentation, lake restoration, afforestation, environmental education, and anti-plastic campaigns. Guided by the strong foundation laid by its founders and strengthened by the continued commitment of its team and volunteers, WCG remains dedicated to its mission of community-driven conservation.



Conservation, Management and development of forests and tree growth, on Sustainable basis, for present and future generations. Forest fire management and creating awareness about wildlife in children and youths.



To Plan, Execute, Coordinate and Monitor the implementation of Forestry and Wildlife Programmes Creating awareness through wildlife photography and exhibition in schools surrounding of Bannerughatta National Park.

# Meet the TEAM

President - Dr. Ashwatha K N Vice - President - Mr. Nagesh O S Secretary - Mr. Jaikumar R Joint Secretary - Mr. Mahadeva K C Treasurer - Mr. Dhanaraj M



Mr. Shankarappa K P

Mr. Mahadeva K C

Mr. Ramaiah K R

Mr. Raghu K M

Mr. Somashekara C

Mr. Satish Kumar

Mr. Vipin Baliga B S

Mr. Naveen Kumar

Mr. Ananda S

Mr. Prasanna Kumar

Mr. Rakesh R V



# Key Highlights of THE YEAR



Successfully organized Kere Habba at Wadeankere, which included the planting of 250 naitive tree saplings and an anti-plastic awareness drive involving students, villegers of Kaleshwari, and panchayat members.

#### **Student Role in Sapling Maintenance**

Engaged students from various colleges in summer maintenance activities such as watering and weeding to ensure the healthy growth of planted saplings—fostering environmental responsibility among youth.

#### **World Environment Day Celebration**

Conducted World Environment Day programs at the Adavi Field Station, creating awareness among school students through interactive sessions and nature-based activities.

#### Launch of Vanya Vijnana Vihara

Introduced the Vanya Vijnana Vihara initiative, in collaboration with Jungle Lodges and Resorts, to provide students from 15 government schools near Bannerghatta National Park with experiential learning opportunities about wildlife, forests, and the importance of conservation.

### Widespread Contributions to Kaanana Magazine

Received contributions from over 100 individuals to Kaanana, WCG's monthly Kannada e-magazine. These included photographs, articles, and poems, reflecting strong community engagement and growing readership.



## E Kere Nammadu



- Restore the lake to its original ecological form by raising the bund, constructing an outlet, and fencing boundaries to protect against encroachment.
- Reforest the lake premises by planting native tree species to enhance biodiversity.
   Reconnect the local community—especially villagers and youth—with the lake, fostering stewardship.
- Raise awareness about the ecological and cultural significance of lakes through community-driven events like Kere Habba.







## **Key Activities**

- Jaladhare (Summer Watering Campaign):
  Conducted a seasonal watering program to protect and sustain saplings planted in 2021, with active participation from college students.
- Kere Habba (31st July 2022):
   Organized a vibrant lake festival engaging local villagers, students, and volunteers, focusing on plantation, clean-up drives, nature walks, and anti-plastic awareness.
- De-weeding Drive:
   Collaborated with Colliers Pvt. Ltd. and college volunteers to carry out de-weeding activities around saplings to ensure healthy plant growth.





- Engaged college students in sapling maintenance activities such as watering (Jaladhare) and de-weeding, offering them hands-on experience in environmental stewardship.
- Partnered with Colliers Pvt. Ltd. and Applied Systems, bringing in corporate participation and support through their CSR initiatives and employee volunteering.
- Collaborated with Mantapa Grama Panchayat and local villagers, fostering a strong sense of community ownership and shared responsibility for the lake's well-being.
- Organized **Kere Habba** as a public awareness platform to engage **students**, **professionals**, **and community members** in understanding the ecological importance of lakes and inspiring continued participation in conservation.







- Successfully fenced the lake boundary and planted over 300 native saplings, contributing to ecological restoration.
- •Strengthened the connection between local villagers and the lake, encouraging community participation in lake upkeep.
- Fostered awareness among college students and the general public about the importance of lakes in sustaining biodiversity and groundwater.

















# World Environment Day Celebration

**Venue: Adavi Field Station** 



- To foster a deeper appreciation and love for nature among children through immersive and guided outdoor experiences.
- To celebrate **World Environment Day** meaningfully with school students, nurturing an early interest in environmental conservation.
- To provide students with opportunities to explore their natural surroundings and learn about biodiversity through structured nature walks and interactive activities.







## **Key Activities**

#### Guided Nature Walks:

Experienced naturalists led students on a walk through the Adavi landscape, encouraging them to observe trees, birds, insects, and signs of wildlife. The walk emphasized the importance of paying attention to biodiversity in everyday surroundings.

#### Hands-On Nature Activities:

At the Adavi Field Station, children participated in a range of engaging activities such as leaf art, identifying native plant species, and soil observation. These activities helped translate curiosity into knowledge.

#### Nature-Inspired Games:

Games designed around ecological themes were organized to make learning fun and memorable. Activities like "Eco Bingo" and "Nature Relay" helped reinforce key ideas in a playful setting.







- Students and parents from Raptor Sports Arena actively took part in all activities, enhancing community engagement around nature.
- •Volunteers from BMS Women's College and Bangalore University supported the program, helping manage groups during the nature walk and coordinating the hands-on activities. Their involvement strengthened the academic-community linkage in environmental education.







# Outcomes

- Over 60 students experienced the outdoors through guided nature walks, gaining a better understanding of local flora and fauna.
- •Children expressed enthusiasm for continuing to observe and learn from nature in their own environments.
- The event served as a model for experiential environmental education, blending structured learning with playful interaction.

•Strengthened community participation in nature education, paving the way for future collaborative events at Adavi Field Station.













## Vanya Vijnana Vihara



- To provide a holistic education on nature and wildlife, empowering students to think critically and act for conservation.
- To promote scientific observation skills through engaging, nature-based activities and games.
- •To integrate outdoor learning with academic development, making education more experiential.
- To offer underprivileged students exposure to wildlife through visits to Bannerghatta Biological Park.
- To help students understand the distinction between wild and captive animals through interactive learning.







## **Activities Conducted**

#### Guided Nature Walks:

Experienced naturalists led students on a walk through the Adavi landscape, encouraging them to observe trees, birds, insects, and signs of wildlife. The walk emphasized the importance of paying attention to biodiversity in everyday surroundings.

#### Hands-On Nature Activities:

At the Adavi Field Station, children participated in a range of engaging activities such as leaf art, identifying native plant species, and soil observation. These activities helped translate curiosity into knowledge.

#### Nature-Inspired Games:

Games designed around ecological themes were organized to make learning fun and memorable. Activities like "Eco Bingo" and "Nature Relay" helped reinforce key ideas in a playful setting.







- Reached students from 17 Government Higher Primary School s situated around Bannerghatta National Park.
- College volunteers contributed as facilitators and learners during the program.
- Teachers actively participated and appreciated the experiential learning approach.



- Cultivated a sense of belonging to the natural world among students.
- Encouraged curiosity and inquiry about local biodiversity.
- Instilled a strong sense of ownership and responsibility for wildlife and nature conservation.



# YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS



Youth engagement remained a key focus across WCG's conservation and education initiatives in 2022. Students and young volunteers actively participated in hands-on fieldwork, nature-based learning, and creative communication, deepening their connection with biodiversity and sustainability.



- •To involve students and young volunteers in WCG's conservation initiatives
- To promote environmental awareness and experiential learning among youth
- To nurture leadership, teamwork, and a sense of responsibility towards nature



# YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS



## **Key Activities**

- Participated in Kere Habba, plant maintenance, and deweeding as part of E Kere Nammadu
- Engaged in nature walks and awareness sessions during Environment Day programs
- Attended wildlife learning visits under Vanya Vijnana Vihara at Bannerghatta
- Contributed stories, illustrations, and articles to Kaanana WCG's monthly Kannada e-magazine



## **Reach and Participation**

- Involved students from 17 government schools around Bannerghatta
- Engaged college volunteers from:
   Dayananda Sagar Academy of Technology and Management
   Nrupatunga University

**BMS** College for Women

**Bangalore University** 

Smt. Nalini Raghunath Rao Degree College

 Forestry college students from Sirsi and Ponnampet enriched Kaanana with field-based contributions

# YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS



# Outcomes

- Sparked curiosity about biodiversity and encouraged critical thinking among young participants
- •Built a network of youth volunteers who are now actively contributing to conservation
- Promoted intergenerational learning through field activities, mentorship, and shared experiences



## PUBLICATIONS AND OUTREACH

## Kaanana - Monthly e-Magazine

Kaanana is WCG's monthly **Kannada e-magazine** focused on biodiversity, nature education, and wildlife conservation. It serves as a platform to share field experiences, science articles, and creative contributions from WCG members, students, and nature enthusiasts. The magazine has steadily grown as a medium for outreach and community engagement.

### **Highlights of the Year:**

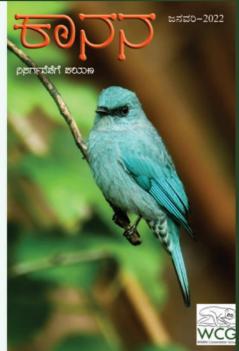
- Published 12 editions consistently throughout the year.
- •Welcomed 27 new contributors, adding fresh perspectives and voices.
- •Launched two new columns "ಕೇಟದ ನಂಟು" (Kitada Nantu) and "ಅಲ°ಮಾರೆಯ ಅನುಭವಗಳು" (Alemariya Anubhavagalu).
- ●Continued the student-focused segment "ವೆಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ವೆಿಜ್ಞಾನ" (Vidyarthigagi Vijnana).

### Impact:

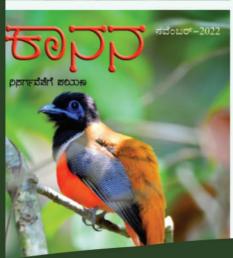
- •Reached over 4,165 new readers during the reporting period.
- •Now read in 21 countries, including the US, Sri Lanka, UAE, and Australia.
- •Helped promote local writing, scientific thinking, and awareness about nature.
- •Contributed to WCG's ongoing efforts in conservation outreach and public education.

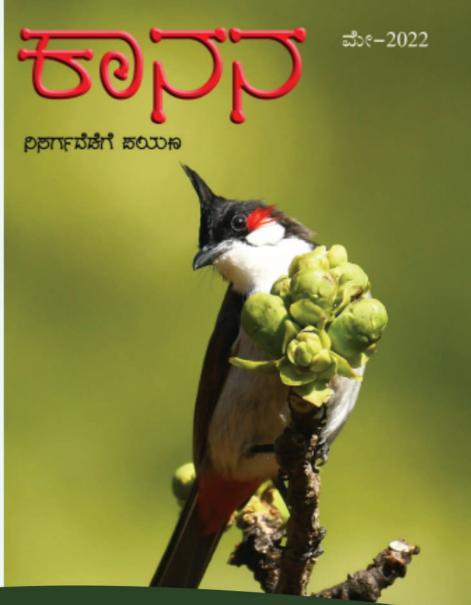












# FINANCIAL Summary

#### WCG Annual Report - Financial Overview (2022-23)

The financial year 2022-23 marked the beginning of WCG's formal financial journey after the organization was officially registered and a dedicated bank account was created. This initial year focused on mobilizing resources through grants, donations, memberships, book sales, and other income, which laid the foundation for structured financial management. Funds were allocated carefully to support programmatic activities, while administrative and operational expenses were kept minimal, ensuring a responsible start to our financial operations.

#### A. Income (Receipts / Income)

Inflow Head	Amount ₹	Notes / Explanation
Donations & contributions	65101	Donations & Contributions 65101 Individual donations (members, well-wishers, UPI, cheque, cash), support for Kaanana, summer camps, etc.
Membership Fees	12000	Annual/one-time membership contributions from WCG members.
Book / Material Sales	7000	Sale of Jeevankura books, magazines (Kaanana), worksheets, or other IEC materials.
Total Inflow	84101	Sum of all inflows.

# FINANCIAL Summary

#### B. Expenditure (Payments / Outflow)

<b>Expense Head</b>	Amount ₹	Notes / Explanation
Program / Project Activities	3162	Includes summer camps, awareness programs, Adavi maintenance, food & travel for participants,
Equipment & Maintenance	3095	printer & cartridge, housekeeping items, kitchen items, renovation/repair of Adavi infrastructure.
Meetings & Events	2270	Food charges for AGM, core team meetings, workshops, volunteer meetings
Audit, Legal & Bank Charges	177.24	cheque book charges, bank charges.
Total Expenditure	8704.24	Sum of all outflows.

#### C. Financial Summary

Particulars	Amount
Total Income	84101
Total Expenditure	8704.24
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year	75396.76
Opening Balance (01 April 2022)	Nil
Closing Balance (31 March 2023)	75396.76

Overall, WCG concluded its first official financial year with a positive surplus and a healthy closing balance, establishing a strong financial foundation for future activities. This initial stability reflects the trust and support of our members and well-wishers, and it positions the organization to scale up its community-based conservation efforts in the coming years.



## People Impacted

- Engaged over 1,000 individuals through nature walks, awareness activities, and school-based programs.
- Reached students from 17 government schools through Vanya Vijnana Vihara.
- Collaborated with college volunteers from institutions including Dayananda Sagar Academy
  of Technology and Management, Nrupatunga University, BMS College for Women,
  Bangalore University, and forestry colleges in Sirsi and Ponnampet.
- Reached 4,165 new readers through the Kaanana e-magazine, with readership now spread across 21 countries.

## **Biodiversity Outcomes**

- •Undertook lake restoration activities including plant maintenance, deweeding, and clean-up under E Kere Nammadu, aiding local ecosystem recovery.
- •Promoted awareness about biodiversity and species interactions through Vanya Vijnana Vihara and contributions in Kaanana.

•Enhanced ecological understanding among students and youth, especially in areas adjoining Bannerghatta National Park.

# IMPACT And REACH

### **Environmental Improvements**

- Contributed to the improvement of lake commons through hands-on restoration work involving students and volunteers.
- Raised awareness on waste reduction and anti-plastic messaging during public outreach programs like Environment Day.
- Encouraged a sense of environmental responsibility among youth through experiential learning and regular engagement.

### **Partnerships & Collaborations**

WCG's conservation and education initiatives were significantly strengthened through active collaborations with government bodies, academic institutions, and community organizations. These partnerships enhanced program delivery, increased volunteer involvement, and supported impactful outreach throughout the year.





### **Key Collaborators and Their Contributions:**

- •Karnataka Department of School Education and Literacy Supported student participation in the Vanya Vijnana Vihara program.
- Mantapa Grama Panchayat Collaborated on lake restoration efforts.
- •Sneha Sampada Provided financial support for lake restoration activities.
- Jungle Lodges and Resorts Partnered in facilitating Vanya Vijnana Vihara educational visits.
- Raptors Sports Arena Supported Environment Day celebrations and youth engagement.
- Dayananda Sagar Academy of Technology and Management Contributed student volunteers for lake restoration work.
- •Nrupatunga University Participated in Vanya Vijnana Vihara through student involvement.
- •BMS College for Women Engaged in the Vanya Vijnana Vihara initiative through volunteer contributions.

Smt. Nalini Raghunath Rao Degree College - Collaborated in lake restoration efforts through student participation.

These partnerships played a crucial role in enabling WCG to deliver inclusive, impactful, and community-driven conservation and education programs.

# CHALLENGES FACED

While executing various initiatives, the WCG team encountered several challenges related to logistics, weather, financial constraints, and on-ground coordination.

Organizing Kere Habba required significant logistical planning – from transporting materials to the lake, which is located away from the main road, to arranging transport for volunteers. A sudden downpour the night before the plantation drive led to water-logging in the prepared pits, necessitating last-minute efforts to drain and refill them in time for the event. Post-plantation, safeguarding saplings from cattle grazing and preventing garbage dumping became ongoing concerns. To address this, WCG appointed a local elderly caretaker within a modest budget and ensured regular member visits to monitor the area and raise local awareness.

Financial constraints were a recurring challenge. With limited funds, the team made conscious efforts to minimize costs by personally engaging in field activities, optimizing available resources, and aligning plans to fit within the available budget. Most members voluntarily contributed time and effort on the ground to reduce external expenses.

During Vanya Vijnana Vihara, though Jungle Lodges and Resorts provided transport for school students, arranging transportation and preparing volunteers as facilitators demanded additional effort and flexibility.

Despite these hurdles, the team remained committed and resourceful, ensuring that all key activities were executed successfully, reflecting a strong spirit of collaboration and perseverance.



# WAY FORWARD

In the coming year, WCG aims to deepen and expand its ongoing conservation efforts with a clear focus on community engagement and ecological restoration. Under the E Kere Nammadu initiative, we plan to take further steps to safeguard the planted saplings, especially during the harsh summer months. With the support of local volunteers, we intend to increase community awareness about lake conservation and actively work towards addressing challenges such as the flow of sanitary water into the lake premises.

Building on the positive response received from the first Vanya Vijnana Vihara program, we plan to expand this nature education initiative to more government schools. Additionally, we are preparing to facilitate more educational programs at our Adavi Field Station, enabling students and nature enthusiasts to engage in hands-on, field-based learning. WCG also looks forward to registering under CSR provisions to secure support for scaling up Vanya Vijnana Vihara and to initiate new projects in wildlife research and conservation in and around Bannerghatta National Park.

To achieve these goals, we invite passionate individuals, institutions, and supporters to collaborate with us. Whether it is through maintaining lake plants, volunteering at **Kere Habba**, contributing to children's nature education, or assisting with biodiversity programs, every effort counts. Together, we can create lasting impact through sustained conservation and environmental education.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

WCG extends its heartfelt thanks to all who supported our conservation and education efforts in 2022. This year's progress was made possible by the collective contributions of our team, volunteers, partners, and well-wishers.

We thank all core WCG members for their role in planning and implementing programs throughout the year. Special appreciation to Mr. Hariharan and Mrs. Deepa Mohan for their dedicated involvement in E Kere Nammadu, Dr. Madhusudhan for mobilizing volunteers, and Mr. Karthikeyan for mentoring during Vanya Vijnana Vihara. The Kaanana editorial team also deserves special mention for strengthening WCG's outreach through consistent content.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

We acknowledge student volunteers from:

- Dayananda Sagar Academy of Technology and Management
- Nrupatunga University
- •BMS College for Women
- •Smt. Nalini Raghunath Rao Degree College
- Forestry Colleges of Sirsi and Ponnampet

Their contributions across lake restoration, Vanya Vijnana Vihara, Environment Day, and Kaanana were deeply valued.



### **DONORS & PARTNERS**

- •Sneha Sampada for supporting E Kere Nammadu
- •Jungle Lodges and Resorts for facilitating Vanya Vijnana Vihara
- Raptors Sports Arena for Environment Day support

### **GOVERNMENT & INSTITUTIONS**

Karnataka Department of School Education and Literacy - for enabling student participation for

- Vanya Vijnana Vihara program
- Mantapa Grama Panchayat for lake restoration partnership
- Teachers and heads of 17 government schools for supporting Vanya Vijnana Vihara

Together, your efforts continue to strengthen WCG's mission of environmental stewardship.



## **ANNEXURES**

### Annexture-I. List of events and Participants

#### A.Kere Habba 2022

SL.No	Name	SL.No	Name
1	Abhishek S R	36	Roopa
2	Ajith K S	37	Roshan S
3	Akash M	38	Sanjay R
4	Anjali S	39	Santosh S
5	Chethan M	40	Sagar R
6	Chetan	41	Sharath
7	Darshan K	42	Shankarappa K P
8	Darshan K L	43	Shreya S
9	Darshan V	44	Spoorthi M
10	Deeksha C M	45	Srinivas Shamachar
11	Gagan A L	46	Sudha G
12	G. K. Bharath	47	Tilak
13	Harish Rao	48	Vanitha H
14	Harshitha M	49	Vivek M. M
15	Hemraj D	NI	
16	Hemantha Kumar T	Number of s	students reached: 510
17	Hussain Basha		
18	Jayant G		
19	Kushal M		
20	Lavanya K P		
21	Likith R		
22	Mallesha R		
23	Manidip Manda		
24	Manjunatha S		
25	Megha S		
26	Monika S		
27	Nagarathna		
28	Prashanth H. S.		
29	Prof. Harish Naik		
30	Pushpa		
31	Rachana G		
32	Ranjitha R		
33	Ranjit Raut		
34	Rathan Acharya		
35	Roopa		

## **ANNEXURES**

#### **Annexture-II**

#### **Youth Engagement Activities**

#### Volunteer colleges:

Dayananda Sagar, Nrupatunga University, BMS College for Women, Smt. Nalini Raghunath Rao Degree College, Forestry Colleges from Sirsi and Ponnampet

#### **Annexture-III**

#### **Outreach Impact Summary**

Impact Area	Details	
Number of Schools Engaged	17	
Total Volunteers Involved	130	
Outreach Events Conducted	3	
Plants Maintained & Monitored	700	
Partner Organisations Supported	11	