



**Student Conference on
Conservation Science - Bengaluru**

2025

16th
Edition

Conference Report

Date:

22nd to 25th September 2025

Venue:

J N Tata Auditorium, IISc Bengaluru



STUDENT CONFERENCE ON CONSERVATION SCIENCE

BENGALURU 2025



16th EDITION

CONFERENCE REPORT

SEPTEMBER 22nd TO 25th, 2025

J N TATA AUDITORIUM

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE, BENGALURU

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Overview

The Student Conference on Conservation Science – Bengaluru 2025 was held from 22 to 25 September 2025, marking the 16th edition of this annual event. The conference brought together students, early-career researchers, and professionals working across the natural and social sciences within the broad domain of biodiversity conservation.

SCCS-Bengaluru provides a vital platform for emerging conservation scientists to share research, discuss methods and ideas, exchange knowledge and experiences, and build lasting professional connections. The conference particularly focuses on participants from South Asia, Southeast Asia, and Africa, fostering regional collaboration and capacity-building among young conservationists.

The 2025 edition welcomed around 400 registered participants, and with the inclusion of resource persons, organisers, volunteers, and guests, the total number of individuals involved reached nearly 500. Participants represented a wide academic spectrum—from undergraduates to doctoral scholars—while resource persons included established conservation practitioners and researchers.

Across four days, the programme featured six plenary talks, 15 oral presentations, 66 student posters, and 40 workshops, offering a rich diversity of perspectives and themes in conservation science. Complementing these academic sessions were popular bird, tree, and loris walks conducted within the Indian Institute of Science campus, which provided participants with immersive field experiences.

Public engagement formed a central part of SCCS-Bengaluru's 2025 agenda. The panel discussion on "Careers in Conservation", along with two public plenary talks by Geetha Ramaswami, Bhargavi Rao, and Raza Kazmi, attracted a wide audience from across Bengaluru. The screening of *My Otter Diary* by Sugandhi Gadadhar and team further added to the outreach efforts, drawing enthusiastic participation.

A hallmark of SCCS-Bengaluru is its collaborative organisational structure, coordinated by a consortium of institutions and supported by a broad network of partners and individuals. This collective model ensures efficient management, cost-effectiveness, and the integration of diverse expertise—making SCCS-Bengaluru a distinctive and enduring platform for nurturing the next generation of conservation scientists.

Plenary Talks



Sindhu Radhakrishna

Primatology, Behavioural Ecology & Conservation Biology

Dr Sindhu Radhakrishna is Professor and Head of the Animal Behaviour and Cognition Programme at the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru, India. She is an ethologist and primatologist whose research focuses on primate social behaviour and cognition, human- animal relations, animal decision-making, wildlife conservation, and human-environment interactions. She is primarily interested in understanding how interactions between humans, animals and the environment influence human and

animal ecologies and cultures and explores these questions using primates as animal models. Prof Radhakrishna holds a master's degree in psychology from Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu and a PhD in Animal Behaviour from Mysore University, Karnataka. She has published extensively and is the recipient of many research grants and honours, notably the INSA Young Scientist Award in 2004, the Nehru-Fulbright Fellowship in 2013, and the DST-SERB Women Excellence Award in 2014.

Talk title:

Animal Agency, Human Compassion and Wildlife Conservation

Talk Summary:

Forty years ago, Michael Soule, the father of Conservation Biology argued that "Conservation and animal welfare, however, are conceptually distinct, and they should remain politically separate". While conservation science has moved a great deal forward in the past few decades, the perspective that "emotional identification with individual" animals is tantamount to bad science is still a dominant paradigm in the field. Is it indeed, poor science to engage with questions relating to animal personhood or even animal welfare? Does it aid wildlife conservation or is it immaterial? This talk will examine if it is necessary for conservationists to examine these issues and if it affects the way they practise their work.



Visuals from Sindhu Radhakrishna's Plenary talk on Day 1 at SCCS Bengaluru 2025



Geetha Ramaswami

Plant Ecology

Geetha Ramaswami is a plant ecologist with a special interest in invasive species, plant-animal interactions, and phenology. Her past research has focused on the dynamics of spread, and biotic interactions of an invasive plant - *Lantana camara* - in forest and rural ecosystems of India. She currently leads SeasonWatch - a citizen science project tracking the seasonality of tree species across India.

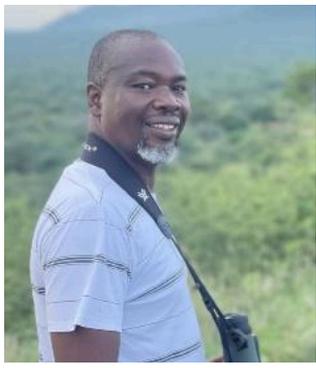
Talk title:

Seeing the Season's Signs: how citizen science is helping document changes in biodiversity

Talk summary:

The study of cyclic and seasonal changes in organisms is known as 'phenology'. Plant and animal phenology is intimately linked to food availability for humans - it is not surprising therefore that the study of life-cycles has always been a part of human life. Some of the oldest and longest written records of phenology in the world are on culturally important trees, long before systematic observation of seasonality became an entire branch of inquiry in ecological sciences. In today's world, this kind of record-keeping would be termed 'citizen science' - the practice of scientific research by non-professionals. As climate change rears its very visible head across the world, large-scale and long-term seasonality data on biodiversity can be especially valuable in adapting to environmental changes. Citizen science places this opportunity in the hands of anyone who wants to be part of the knowledge-generation process. In tropical regions, where plants and animals may have diverse seasonality strategies, citizen science has helped create a robust picture of contemporary changes. However, the tropical world is still a few hundred GBs worth of data away from knowing exactly how changing climate is affecting biodiversity. In this talk, I will present an overview of how citizen science has been used to understand the seasonality and distribution of biodiversity across the world, and how one project in India - SeasonWatch - leverages valuable cultural knowledge on tree seasonality to quantify contemporary changes in relation to the environment.





Sammy Wambua

Marine Conservation Science

Dr Sammy Wambua is a conservation genomics researcher based at Pwani University, Kenya, where he leads the Biosciences Research Centre (PUBReC). His work lies at the intersection of molecular biology, wildlife conservation, and environmental sustainability, with a focus on applying cutting-edge genomic tools to real-world conservation challenges in the Global South.

Dr Wambua's research spans coral reef restoration, sea turtle health, and wildlife population genetics. He has developed and applied field-ready molecular approaches to understand disease ecology in endangered turtles, uncover local adaptation in corals, and guide the design of effective conservation interventions. At the heart of his work is a commitment to building genomic research capacity in resource-limited settings through mentoring young scientists, establishing local infrastructure, and advocating for equitable access to technology and knowledge.

Beyond the lab, Dr. Wambua plays a strategic role in shaping conservation science across Africa. He actively mentors graduate students, facilitates hands-on bioinformatics training, and fosters partnerships that enable African institutions to take the lead in genomics-driven conservation. He is passionate about creating a future where conservation science is not only excellent but also inclusive, locally driven, and responsive to ecological and societal needs.

Through his participation in SCCS-Bng 2025, Dr Wambua aims to share both the scientific insights and personal lessons from his journey—and to inspire a new generation of conservationists to think boldly, work collaboratively, and stay rooted in local contexts.

Talk title:

Navigating Conservation Genomics in East Africa: A Personal Journey, Practical Lessons, and a Vision for Equitable Science

Talk summary:

Generating relevant scientific knowledge is vital for the sustainable management and equitable use of natural resources. The ongoing genomics revolution, driven by advances in sequencing technologies and bioinformatics, offers powerful tools to reverse biodiversity loss. Yet, the uptake of genomics in Africa, particularly in wildlife research, remains limited. While the lack of infrastructure and financial investment is often cited as the primary barrier, there is far less recognition of the critical role played by human leadership, creativity, and mentorship in building capacity from the ground up.

This presentation shares the journey of an early-career researcher in Kenya who, without dedicated funding or formal institutional structures, has combined personal research interests with a deep commitment to mentoring the next generation. It highlights how purpose-driven guidance, strategic partnerships, and locally relevant research projects have seeded a grassroots movement in conservation genomics.

Through stories of student-led projects, field improvisations, and intentional capacity-building efforts, this talk offers a candid reflection on how meaningful scientific progress can emerge even in resource-constrained settings. Rather than focusing on what others should do, it proposes what students, early-career scientists, and practitioners can do to drive change from within.



Bhargavi Rao

Environmental & Social Justice

Bhargavi S. Rao works at the intersections of community action with law, policy, planning and governance. She has about 30 years of experience across research, advocacy, campaign and teaching in a variety of human rights, governance and people-centred initiatives, and in advancing environmental and social justice. She is an Independent Researcher/Educator, Experiential Learning Designer, Facilitator, Outdoor Pedagogue and a Visiting Senior Fellow (Honorary) at the Impact and Policy Research Institute.

She is passionate about driving climate action and raising awareness about the pressing challenges of our time. Her efforts focus on amplifying solutions to the climate crisis while advocating for the needs of the most vulnerable communities. Committed to fostering resilience, equity, and sustainable development through collaboration, innovation, and grassroots engagement.

She has been a member of the India team of the international Comparative Covid Response (CompCoRe) project, from an STS perspective led by S. Hilgartner, Cornell Univ, S.Jasanoff, Harvard Kennedy School, & the Governance of Sociotechnical Transformations (GoST) research project.

She has extensive experience in coordinating & teaching a variety of educational programmes. She coordinates the Knowledge2Action Academy, Swissnex India, she was Co-Director of Minnesota Studies in International Development, (India Prog), Univ of Minnesota and Cities in the 21st Century and Health & Community programmes of International Honours Programme (Boston University & SIT). She teaches on faculty led Study Abroad programmes such as the GCIL, UW, Seattle, is guest faculty at Azim Premji University, Bhoomi College, Baduku college and at other universities in India & abroad. She also engages in corporate training.

She has worked with Centre for Financial Accountability, Public Health Foundation of India, Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives, United Way, ESG & Indian Institute Science

Talk title:

Climate Justice: Grounding Climate Action in Equity, Rights, and Resistance

Talk summary:

Climate change is not just an environmental challenge, it is fundamentally about equity, rights, and justice. Those who contribute the least to emissions are farmers, forest dwellers, artisans, migrants, and informal workers. But they are the ones most exposed to climate risks. Yet, mainstream climate action often sidelines their realities, focusing instead on markets, technology, and carbon accounting. This talk draws on over two decades of work at the intersection of community action, law, and policy to reframe climate leadership through the lens of justice. It will share stories from the ground where communities are resisting extractive models of development, reclaiming rights to land and water, and building climate-resilient futures rooted in dignity and sustainability.

Grounding climate action in equity and resistance is not optional; it is essential. Without justice, transitions risk widening inequalities. With justice, they can create pathways of resilience, solidarity, and genuine transformation.



Ajit Menon

Political Ecology

Ajit Menon is a Professor at the Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai, India. He was a Carson Fellow at the Rachel Carson Center in Munich, Germany between October 2019-January 2020 and a L.M Singhvi Fellow at the Centre for South Asian Studies, University of Cambridge between September-December 2012. His research and writing focus on the political ecology of forests and fisheries in south India within the wider context of how global capitalism shapes conservation and development. He is part of the Editorial Collective of the journal Conservation and Society. His co-authored and edited books include Community -Based Natural Resource Management in South Asia (Sage Publications 2007), Democratizing Forest Governance in India (OUP 2017) and most recently Environmental Politics at the Local: Natural Resource Governance in India (Orient Blackswan 2024).

Talk title:

Life Below Water: Communities, Conservation and the Political Ecology of the Coast

Talk Summary:

Small-scale fishing 'communities' are conceptually and to a lesser extent in policy firmly rooted in imaginations of coastal conservation (at sea and on land). Yet in practice are these communities really visible in conservation? And what form does this conservation take? This presentation looks at Life Below Water, SDG 14, in India, and critically examines the community in conservation in a changing Blue Economy landscape. It builds upon recent scholarship that critiques the Blue Economy discourse of sustainable and equitable growth as well as its material manifestations, highlighting the complex ways small-scale fishers are increasingly dispossessed of access to shores and seas. The community in conservation is thus reimagined – away from community-based fisheries governance to participation in activities such as ecotourism and mariculture. However, equally important, is that small-scale fishers themselves are embedded in a political economy that has shaped their own 'developmental' aspirations which makes a small-scale fisheries imagination for the future increasingly challenging.



Snapshots from Ajit Menon's popular talk at SCCS Bengaluru 2025



Raza Kazmi

Wildlife History & Conservation Communication

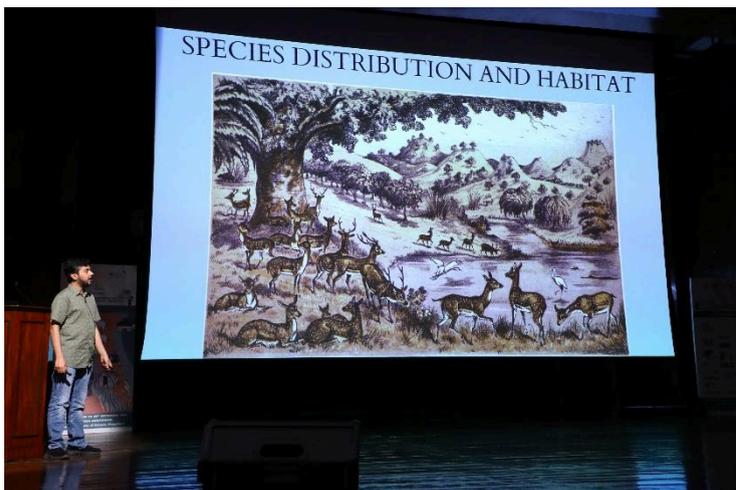
Raza Kazmi is a conservationist, wildlife historian, storyteller, writer, and researcher. His fields of expertise include India's wildlife and forest administration history, conservation policy, and conservation issues afflicting the insurgency-ridden east-central Indian landscape. His writings appear in national newspapers (The Hindu, Indian Express), online media houses (The Wire, Fiftytwodotin, RoundGlass Sustain) as well as various magazines and journals (Frontline, Seminar, TheIndiaForum, Journal of Bombay Natural History Society, Sanctuary Asia, etc.). A recipient of the New India Foundation Fellowship for 2021 and the Omega Resilience Awards Fellowship for 2025, he is currently writing a book tentatively titled *To Whom Does the Forest Belong? – The Fate of Green in the Land of Red*. He works as a Conservation Communicator with Wildlife Conservation Trust, Mumbai.

Talk title:

Tracks from the Past: Importance of Historical Research in Conservation and Wildlife Science

Talk Summary:

History as a discipline is not often associated with conservation and wildlife sciences, usually relegated to being an esoteric endeavour. However, the oft-repeated axiom that one must know the past to understand the present holds equally true for conservation and wildlife sciences. History can open innumerable new possibilities in this regard – understanding the natural history and distribution of species in the past in order to co-relate it with the present, studying the political and social history of landscapes and peoples at the heart of ongoing and planned conservation efforts to facilitate better conservation decision making, analysing the history of institutions and policies governing our forests and wildlife habitats, the genesis and evolution of conservation efforts and their outcomes over the centuries, and much more. Historical research in conservation and wildlife sciences is critical to understanding where we are today, how and why we reached here, lessons from the past, and possibilities for the future. This talk hopes to touch upon each of these aspects.



Raza Kazmi's popular talk in session

Careers in Conservation

The panel discussion on “Careers in Conservation” at SCCS-Bengaluru 2025 provided participants with an engaging platform to explore diverse professional pathways within the field of conservation. The session brought together experts from varied disciplines, including ecology, environmental law, communication, governance, and the arts, to share their career journeys and experiences. The panel featured Aastha Chauhan, Anand Pendharkar, Shubhra Sotie, Sunil Limaye, Devica Ranade, and Kritika Balaji, who collectively represented the multidisciplinary nature of conservation practice today. Discussions centred on the importance of interdisciplinary skills, adaptability, and collaboration across research, policy, and community engagement. The panellists emphasised that there is no singular route to building a career in conservation—success lies in aligning one’s passion with purpose, seeking mentorship, and embracing varied entry points such as research, advocacy, communication, and creative practice. The session was particularly valuable for students and early-career professionals, offering them practical insights and inspiration to shape their own pathways in the conservation field.



Visual from the Careers in Conservation – Panel discussion of SCCS Bengaluru 2025



Aastha Chauhan



Anand Pendharkar



Devica Ranade



Shubhra Sotie



Sunil Limaye



Kritika Balaji

Abstracts Submission & Review

For SCCS-Bengaluru 2025, a total of 158 abstracts were received. Following a detailed eligibility screening, 81 abstracts met the required criteria and were shortlisted for presentation at the conference.

Each abstract was assigned to two reviewers whose expertise closely aligned with the subject area. The reviews were then evaluated for quality, constructiveness, and the consistency between feedback and scores. In cases where significant discrepancies were observed between two reviews, the Abstracts Working Group sought the opinion of a third reviewer to ensure fairness and accuracy in evaluation.

The final shortlist was determined based primarily on the consolidated reviewer feedback. In addition, considerations such as international representation, disciplinary and thematic diversity, and gender balance were factored into the selection process to ensure a broad and inclusive range of topics and perspectives.

The review panel for SCCS-Bengaluru 2025 consisted of 123 members, whose time and expertise were instrumental in maintaining the rigour and quality of the review process. The organising team extends its sincere gratitude to all reviewers for their invaluable contribution and support.

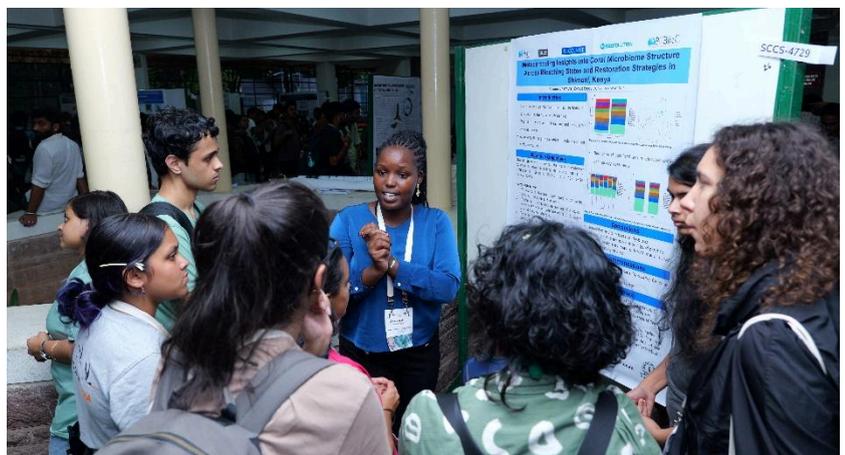
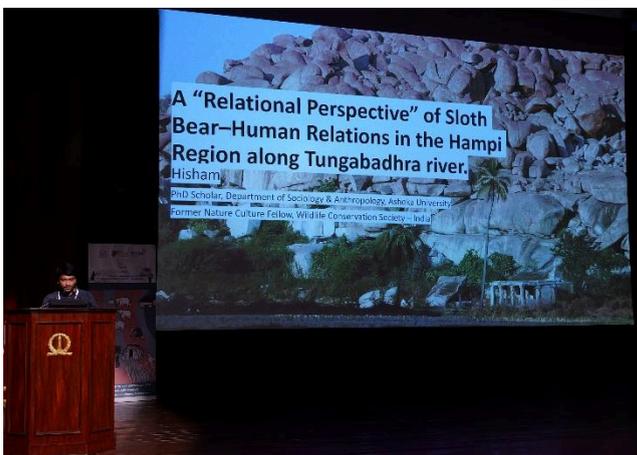
Student Presentations

At SCCS-Bengaluru 2025, a total of 81 student presentations were featured, comprising 15 oral talks and 66 posters, reflecting a wide diversity of research themes, ecological systems, and geographical regions.

The student talks were held across three days of the conference — Days 1, 3, and 4 — in keeping with SCCS-Bengaluru's long-standing tradition of hosting a single talk session at a time. This format ensured that all participants could attend and engage with each presentation. Every speaker was allotted 20 minutes, which included 15 minutes for the presentation and 5 minutes for questions and discussion, fostering constructive dialogue and valuable feedback.

The poster presentations were organised into two dedicated sessions, with each set displayed for two consecutive days to maximise visibility and interaction. In total, 66 posters were showcased, offering participants the opportunity to discuss their work informally with peers, faculty, and professionals across disciplines.

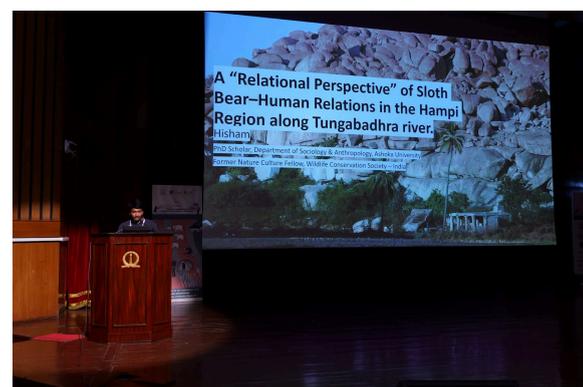
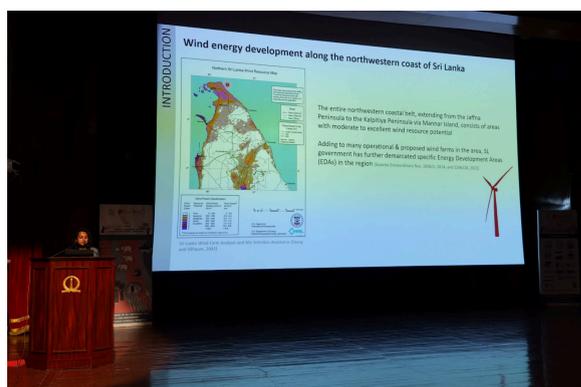
Together, the student talk and poster sessions formed the academic core of SCCS-Bengaluru 2025, providing young researchers with a supportive platform to present their findings, refine their communication skills, and engage meaningfully with the wider conservation community.



Student Presentations at SCCS Bengaluru 2025

Student Talks

No	Name of the presenter	Title of the talk
1	Gayomini Panagoda	Network analysis reveals wind energy impact on waterbird movements in Mannar; a critical site of the Central Asian Flyway
2	Himangshu Kalita	Hidden Hierarchies: Exploring Gender Power and Inequality in Human-Wildlife Interactions through Feminist Political Ecology in Assam Northeast India
3	Mohammed Hisham	Bear- Human Relationship in and around Hampi a Relational Perspective
4	Sandani Iresha	Microplastic ingestion and associated histopathology in Pelagic Seabirds of Sri Lanka
5	Aaheli Bera	Small Rays Big Threats: Quantifying Microplastics in Scaly Whipray (Brevitrygon walga)
6	Juno Negi	Wildlife vs Checkboxes—Why qualitative enquiry matters in human-wildlife studies
7	Sneha Shahi	Rethinking River Dependence: Water-Society Interactions Along the Tamiraparani in Tirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu
8	Chaitanya Arjunwadkar	Wave Action Mediates Coral Reef Community Structure and Divergent Post-Bleaching Recovery Trajectories in the Andaman Islands
9	Siddharth Dixit	Community Perspectives on the Return of Elephants to the Bandhavgarh Landscape
10	Faizee Ali Khan	Ooty this summer? Using Citizen Science to Track Avian Elevational Migration in the Nilgiris.
11	Abhirami C	Coffee removal benefits native plant recruitment in abandoned coffee agroforests of Western Ghats
12	Iresha Wijerathne	The vulnerability of endemic vertebrates in Sri Lanka to climate change
13	Praisyl Swetha S	Between Tradition and Transition: The Narikuravar's Hunting Practices
14	Dinal Meele	Seabird Diversity and Bycatch in Fisheries at the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of Sri Lanka
15	Shubhika Pandey	Overcoming Linnean and Wallacean shortfalls in Melon barbs (Teleostei: Cyprinidae: Haludaria) endemic to the Western Ghats of India



Student Posters

S No	Name of the Presenter	Title of the poster presentation
1	Geetika Pandey	Socio-Economic Drivers of Human-Elephant Conflict in Chhattisgarh: Insights from a study in Chhattisgarh
2	Gayathri M	Plant-insect herbivore interaction networks in a fragmented wet evergreen tropical rainforest.
3	Noopur Borawake	Selective logging impacts on forest structure and diversity in the tropical forests of Eastern Himalaya
4	Reva Duraphe	Geographic variation in songs and calls of the Oriental Magpie-Robin (<i>Copsychus saularis</i> [saularis] group)
5	Maria Anjum	Living with Langurs: A Mixed-Methods Approach to Understanding Golden Langur-Human Relationships around Kakojana Reserved Forest in Assam, India
6	Meenakshi AK	Caught in the Filter: Are Marine Sponges Silent Witnesses to Microplastic Pollution? Assessing Sponges as Natural Bioindicators in the Andaman
7	Debangini Ray	Entangled Urban Lives: Human-Owl Relationships in Indian Cities through a Multispecies Ethnographic Lens
8	Shaillendra Singh Deora	Paws & Poop: Unravelling Leopard Prey Preferences and Estimating Prey Abundance in the Human-Dominated Landscape of Jawai Bandh Rajasthan
9	Ritam Dey	The Colored Wings Fading Fast: Small Steps toward BIG Impact
10	Priyanka Borah	Of Howls and Histories: Understanding human-jackal interactions perceptions and attitudes in Assam
11	Mirza Altaf Baig	TRACE: Tracking Ranikhet's Apex Carrion Eaters
12	Rohan Baishya	Demystifying the "Unclassed": Tenure, Management, and Governance of Unclassed Forests and its Resources in Siang Valley, Arunachal Pradesh
13	Anish Banerjee	Understanding the Ethnozoological Drivers and Socioeconomic Patterns of Bird Hunting in South Asia
14	Shristi Karki	Patterns of Greater one-horned rhino mortality in Chitwan National Park and its buffer zone areas
15	Dev Bagdi	Invasion by an N-fixer tree alters leaf litter decomposition in a tropical montane grassland
16	K P Akilan	Global economic impacts of invasive termite species
17	Aayush Gupta	Legacy effects of Woody Invasive Species on the unique Shola-Grassland mosaic ecosystem of Upper Nilgiris: A belowground comparative analysis
18	Diksha Nagarkoti	Socioeconomic Costs of Scrub Typhus in Rural Sikkim
19	Vandana Kannan	Over the Canopy and Under the Burrow: Understanding the Ecology of Two Nocturnal Cryptic Mammals in Melseemai Tamil Nadu
20	Nitha Fathima Nazir	Understanding How Plant Invasions Affect Mycorrhizal Communities in the Eastern Ghats of India
21	Rodney Omukuti	RAD-Seq Assessment of the Genetic Diversity of Coral Species Under Restoration at Shimoni Kenya
22	Sonim Kasar	Breaking The Chain: A Community-Based Intervention Framework for Pangolin Conservation
23	Niranjan Balagopal	From open spaces to closed canopies: Conversion of grazing lands in the Himalayas.
24	Akila Peiris	The Use of Smart Data Loggers to study the breeding ecology and predator dynamics of Ground-nesting shorebirds
25	Jereem Thampan	Land Degradation and spread of <i>Calotropis procera</i> in Urban habitats under future climate change scenarios
26	Mehnaz Nazir	Habitat connectivity vs Protected area effectiveness: Optimizing Himalayan Black bear conservation in the Kashmir Himalaya
27	Keerthana Nallathambi	Case Study: Biodiversity Assessment of Flora and Fauna of Samathur Wetland Pollachi
28	Hansani Wijerathna	Habitat-Specific Beetle Responses Reveal Critical Conservation Gaps in Sri Lanka's Knuckles Sub-Montane Forests

S No	Name of the Presenter	Title of the poster presentation
29	Jyoti Kumari	Identifying conservation hotspots: Habitat suitability mapping for Bubalus arnee (Wild Water Buffalo) through spatial modelling approach
30	Prashant Mahajan	Do large carnivores influence the temporal activity patterns of mesocarnivores?
31	Siddhant Mehendale	Savanna afforestation does not lower diversity but alters composition of butterfly communities
32	Yashwant Singh Panwar	Long-term monitoring reveals persistence of Chytridiomycosis in populations of stream frogs in the northern Western Ghats.
33	Vaishnavi Apte	Distribution density and environmental correlates of reptiles on threatened montane rock outcrop in the northern Western Ghats.
34	Raj Jadhav	Macaques on the map: Distribution of bonnet macaques human-macaque interactions and an exploration of local community perceptions in Mumbai
35	Sudhanshu Kumar	Role of Geography and Climate in shaping the speciation in select Scolopendrid centipedes in Peninsular India
36	Sajib Biswas	ROADS MYTHS AND FORESTS: EXPLORING SNAKE DIVERSITY AND LOCAL PERCEPTIONS IN SOUTHEASTERN BANGLADESH
37	Nityashree Nandi	Know Your Elephants: Decoding Individual Elephant Identity from the Photographs
38	Aayushi Gupta	Hybridization as a conservation strategy for wildcat populations
39	Hassan Shahnawaz Islam	Long-term change in coastal habitats and their implications for turtle nesting along the Karnataka coastline.
40	Lakshmi Niranjana	How does removal of coffee an alien invasive species affect insect herbivory of native seedlings in a recovering secondary rainforest?
41	Shikhar Srivastava	Where Giants Roam: Habitat determinants of occupancy and space use by Asian elephants in a high-conflict landscape of Odisha
42	Malavika Kamath	The Canopy Community: Deciphering epiphyte community patterns and their environmental correlates across space and elevation
43	Hemlata Koli	Do elevation and seasonal changes affect spider diversity and composition in the tropical dry hilly Aravalli Range Rajasthan India?
44	Herman Ramesh	Balancing Act: Persistence of the Red Fox in the Dog-Dominated Landscapes of the Trans-Himalaya
45	Arunima Haridas	Islands of Persistence: Assessing the Occupancy of Key Tiger Prey Species in the Fragmented Habitats of Wayanad
46	Salome Chemutai	Inventorizing Symbionts of Corals under Restoration Interventions in Shimoni Kenya by High-throughput eDNA Sequencing
47	Pasindu Rodrigo	Integrating Habitat Use Occupancy and Land Use Change for Conservation of Sri Lankan Elephants in the Southern Region of Wilpattu
48	Thilina Nimalrathna	A cost-effective method to study hyper-diverse mycological communities using iDNA from dung beetle gut
49	N Devanand	Low genetic diversity in the point endemic Narcondam Hornbill (<i>Rhyticeros narcondami</i>) compared to its congener the Wreathed Hornbill (<i>Rhyticeros undulatus</i>)
50	Albin Thomas	Selective Shelters: Microhabitat Preferences and Diversity of Anurans in the Achencovil Forests Southern Western Ghats
51	Nissy William	UPTOWN FUNK YOU UP! Quantifying the impact of urbanization on the genetic diversity of Sushil's fan throated lizard
52	Jeevagan Velsamy	BioT - A Liquid Photobioreactor for Sustainable Carbon Sequestration and Oxygen generation
53	Gargi Sharma	Letting die to save the rhino: Neoliberal conservation and racialized governance in Assam India
54	Jugal Borah	Decline of bird communities following a century of land-use change in the Himalayan wet grasslands.
55	Arghya Chakrabarty	Evaluating the Economic and Environmental Impact of Tourism on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in the Lahaul-Pangi Landscape

S No	Name of the Presenter	Title of the poster presentation
56	Naroje Narendhar	Steps into the Wild: Activity pattern and Post-Release Journey of a Rehabilitated Asiatic Black Bear Cub in Pakke Tiger Reserve
57	Nithin K A	Influence of demographic factors on survival and recovery of bottlenecked populations.
58	Soham Kacker	Rethinking Traditional Knowledge: Changing Paradigms of Medicinal Plant Collection in the Gori Ganga Valley India
59	Shreya Ray	Does sharing equate to caring? Interactions between mammals and people in the shared spaces of Darjeeling hills in eastern Himalayas
60	Saeed Patil	Assessing Changes in Ghost Crab Distribution and Diet in Response to Conservation of Sea Turtle Eggs and Hatchlings
61	Pooja Kumari	Spatial patterns of Red Panda (<i>Ailurus fulgens</i>) distribution and habitat use in Eastern Himalayas: A case study from Darjeeling district
62	Sayan Banerjee	A study of enablers, institutional mechanisms and challenges towards journey of Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) in Nagaland India
63	Anushka Kawale	Impact of Development on Wild Bioresources Use and Dependence in Siang Valley Eastern Himalayas
64	Vijay Karthick	Calling out loud: behavioural response of frogs to land-use change in the Western Ghats
65	Prakhar Sharma	Food Habits and Ecosystem Services of Striped Hyena (<i>Hyaena hyaena</i>) in Gir Protected Area Gujarat India.



Networking & Public Engagement at SCCS-Bng 2025

Promoting public awareness and engagement on conservation issues has always been a defining feature of SCCS-Bengaluru, setting it apart from other scientific conferences. Alongside the popular public plenary talks, SCCS-Bengaluru 2025 introduced a series of sessions designed to encourage networking, cross-disciplinary dialogue, and interaction with non-specialist audiences.

One of the highlights of this year's programme was the dedicated networking session titled "Birds of a Feather". Conceived as an interactive icebreaker, the session provided participants with space and time to meet others working on similar themes or sharing common research interests. In the lead-up to the event, participants were invited to propose broad conservation themes around which discussions could be organised. This participatory approach allowed students, researchers, and resource persons to come together in small, focused groups, fostering meaningful conversations and potential collaborations.

The themes selected for this year's Birds of a Feather session were:

- Bees
- Human–Wildlife Relationships
- Elitism in Conservation Research
- Illegal Wildlife Trade
- Genetics and Conservation
- Restoration
- Environmental Policy
- When and How to Use Citizen Science
- Creating Safe Workspaces
- How Useful is Macroecology?

These informal group discussions encouraged participants to exchange ideas, share experiences, and identify opportunities for collaboration beyond the conference. The session also benefited from the participation of numerous senior conservation scientists, who contributed insights from their own work and guided discussions.



Nature Walks at SCCS Bengaluru 2025

SCCS-Bengaluru 2025 continued its tradition of blending academic sessions with immersive field-based experiences through a series of nature walks held across the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) campus. These activities enabled participants to engage directly with the campus's ecological richness, guided by experienced naturalists and researchers.

Bird Walks – Day 2 & Day 3

Early-morning bird walks on Days 2 and 3 were facilitated by **Tarun Menon** and **Subhasmita Patro**. Each session brought together 25–30 participants who explored the campus's wooded environments while learning about bird behaviour, vocalisations, habitat associations, and practical field identification techniques.

Tree Walks – Day 2 & Day 3

Tree walks on Days 2 and 3, led by **Sayee Girdhari** and **Gauravya Mohan**, encouraged participants to closely observe the diversity of tree species on campus. With 15–20 attendees per session, the walks focused on hands-on identification skills and the ecological importance of trees within urban and semi-natural landscapes.

Loris Walk – Day 3 (Evening)

The much-anticipated nocturnal loris walk took place on the evening of Day 3, with **Vidisha Kulkarni**, **Alen Alex**, and **Kedar Wagh** guiding around 60 participants split into two groups. The walk offered attendees a rare opportunity to observe the slender loris in its natural habitat and learn about its behaviour, distribution, and conservation challenges.

Mushroom Walk – Day 4 (Morning)

Introduced as a new initiative this year, the mushroom walk on Day 4 morning was led by **Siddharth Fitwe**. Participants were introduced to the diversity of fungi on campus, identification features, ecological functions, and the broader significance of fungal conservation.

Nature Journaling Workshop – Day 4 (Morning)

Also piloted as a new initiative, the nature journaling workshop on Day 4 morning was facilitated by **Sikha Hariharan** and **Sambita Modak**. Through guided observation and drawing exercises, participants learned how to use journaling as a tool to enhance attentiveness, record field experiences, and cultivate deeper connections with nature.

Together, these walks and workshops remained among the most valued components of SCCS-Bengaluru, offering participants experiential learning opportunities that complemented the scientific sessions and reinforced the conference's commitment to engaging with nature directly and meaningfully.

Who's Who in Conservation

The “Who's Who in Conservation” exhibition at SCCS-Bengaluru 2025 brought together a diverse group of organisations and initiatives working towards environmental protection, research, and awareness. This platform aimed to connect participants with non-profit organisations, research institutions, foundations, and conservation groups engaged in a wide range of activities—from ecological research and field conservation to policy, education, and community engagement.

The initiative provided conference participants with an opportunity to interact directly with representatives from these organisations, learn about their ongoing work, and explore possibilities for collaboration, volunteering, internships, and employment. It also encouraged dialogue between students, early-career professionals, and organisations seeking to strengthen networks within the conservation community.

A total of 23 organisations and groups participated in the Who's Who stalls this year, representing a broad spectrum of conservation efforts across India:

1. Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc
2. National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS)
3. Nature Conservation Foundation (NCF)
4. Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE)
5. Keystone Foundation
6. Ataavi Bird Foundation
7. Dakshin Foundation
8. Current Conservation
9. Emden Solutions For Social Causes (OPC) Pvt. Ltd
10. Wildlife Research and Conservation Society
11. Envisage Research Foundation
12. WildTales Foundation
13. PashooPakshee
14. Madras Crocodile Bank Trust
15. Wildlife Conservation Society - India
16. Feather Library
17. Veditum India Foundation
18. Mongabay India
19. Network for Conserving Central India
20. State of India's Birds
21. Nature Mates-Nature Club
22. SPROUTS – Avium the Wilderness
23. Shrinkala Art Studio
24. Enthi Nature
25. Centre for Wildlife Studies





Artist's Corner

Conservation Artists Showcase

Now in its second year, the Conservation Artists Showcase at SCCS Bengaluru 2025 continued to highlight the role of visual art in supporting conservation awareness and outreach. Designed as a non-commercial platform, the showcase offered selected artists an opportunity to display works created in collaboration with conservation organisations or inspired by themes of nature and environmental stewardship.

This year, five artists—Dheeraj C. L., Tanmaye G., Jobin Varughese, Zainab Khan, and Ketaki Watve—presented their work during a two-day exhibition. The showcase provided an engaging space for artists and conservation practitioners to exchange ideas and explore the role of creative expression in advancing conservation communication.

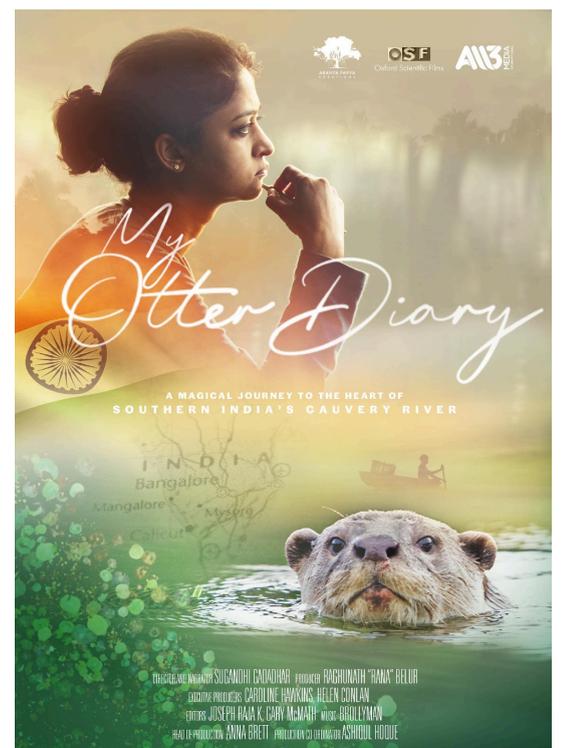
The initiative was well received by participants and visitors, reinforcing the importance of interdisciplinary approaches and establishing the showcase as a valued component of the SCCS Bengaluru programme.



Film Screening

SCCS Bengaluru 2025 featured a screening of *My Otter Diary*, a documentary by filmmakers Sugandhi Gadadhar and Rana. The film has received significant recognition, including two nominations at the Wildscreen Panda Awards 2025 and selection as a finalist at the Jackson Wild Media Awards 2025.

The screening was accompanied by an interactive session with the filmmakers, as well as Shivu and other fisherfolk from the Cauvery River community who appear in the documentary. The audience engaged enthusiastically, asking questions and exploring the conservation themes, lived realities, and storytelling approach showcased in the film.

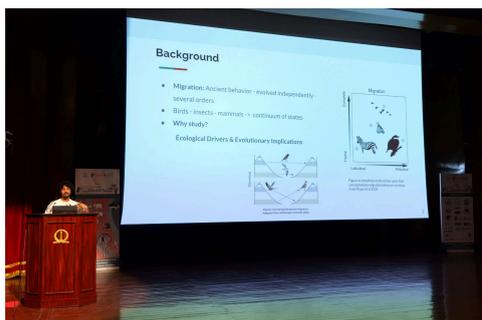


Honouring Dr Ajith Kumar

SCCS Bengaluru 2025 paid tribute to Dr Ajith Kumar, one of India's pioneering ecologists, renowned for his research on the lion-tailed macaques of Kerala and his exceptional mentorship of young conservation scientists. As Director of the Master's Programme in Wildlife Biology and Conservation at NCBS, he inspired generations through his commitment to education, research, and inclusivity in the field.



In recognition of his enduring legacy, the conference introduced the AK Series, a special session dedicated to his memory. The session featured five student presentations spanning diverse research themes—reflecting Dr Kumar's lifelong dedication to supporting students and fostering excellence in conservation science.



In Memory of Shashank Srinivasan

For the second consecutive year, SCCS Bengaluru honoured Shashank Srinivasan, a visionary cartographer, technologist, and conservationist known for his pioneering work through the Technology for Wildlife Foundation. In 2025, his family continued their generous support by funding 40 bursaries for Indian students and covering the participation costs of three domestic speakers, contributing a total of ₹4 lakh. This gesture enabled young conservationists to engage, learn, and connect, serving as a heartfelt tribute to Shashank's enduring passion for nature and his belief in empowering future generations through education.

Workshops

Workshops have always been a defining feature of SCCS Bengaluru, reflecting the conference's core focus on skill development and capacity building. In 2025, the programme featured 13 long workshops and 27 short workshops, offering participants a wide range of hands-on learning opportunities. The long workshops were held on Day 2 (09:00–16:00), while the short workshops ran from 14:00–16:30 on Days 1, 3, and 4.

This year, the conference received around 45 workshop proposals, of which three new long workshops and 17 new short workshops were introduced, expanding the diversity of themes and skill areas covered. The workshops catered to students, early-career conservationists, and professionals seeking to strengthen their research and field competencies.

With nearly 300 workshop slots available daily, high participant interest led to many sessions accommodating additional attendees, bringing the total participation to approximately 400 individuals per day. Feedback indicated a high level of satisfaction, with most participants noting that the sessions significantly enhanced their understanding and provided valuable practical insights. As per SCCS practice, feedback was compiled and shared with facilitators and organisers to inform future conference planning.

Short Workshops

S No	Short Workshops	Resource Person(s)
S1	Theatre for environmental justice: an introduction	Yams Srikanth, Stella James
S2	Smart Moves: Mapping Evolutionary Flexibility in Animals (Using phylogenetic tools to trace adaptability for conservation insight)	Deyatima Ghosh, Dr. Maitreya Sil
S3	Inking Nature: A Nature Journaling Workshop	Sambita Modak, Sikha Hariharan
S4	Tree Identification and Phenology: Basic Workshop	Sayee Girdhari
S5	'Okay, but what's the story?' - A guide to reading and synthesizing research papers	Anish Paul, Pritha Dey, Malavika Kamath
S6	Language and Ecology - Communicating Nature through Local Languages	P. Jeganathan, Pooja Pawar
S7	Conservation Careers: Careers in Ecology, Environmental Science, and Sustainability Studies	Pankaj Koparde, Prasad Kulkarni
S8	How to utilize iNaturalist data for Conservation and Research Projects	Paul Antony Mangaly, Aditya Bari
S9	Study design in ecology and conservation	Kavita Isvaran
S10	Data detox in R - Clean, wrangle, and transform your ecological data	Swapna Nelaballi
S11	Reading trees: Ways to connect with nature	Narayan Sharma, Sudeshna Gupta
S12	Baby steps of communicating conservation research through print and social media	Jithin V, Rishika Pardikar
S13	Using Open Data for Better Environmental Protection	Aishani Goswami, Rhea Lopez, Siddharth Agarwal
S14	Tangled Data, Tangible Tales: Ecological Data to Storytelling	Sambita Modak, Chandrima Home
S15	Telling Wild Stories: A Visual Toolkit for Conservationists	Sohail Madan, Abhishek Paliwal
S16	The Empire Floats Back: River Systems and Their Stakeholders	Sneha Shahi
S17	Sensors in the Field: Low-Cost Ecological Monitoring with Arduino	Rakesh Khanna A
S18	Bat Acoustic Data Recording, Processing and Analyses: New Approaches and Automation	Kadambari Deshpande, Vedant Barje
S19	Living Landscapes: Connecting Communities with Conservation	Dr. Archana Bhatt, Dr Vipindas
S20	Research with fishers and other ecological knowledge holders	Andrea Phillott, Chetan Rao

S No	Short Workshops	Resource Person(s)
S21	Sound and its Sensory Experiences in Shaping human-animal Relationships and Interactions	Dr. Samira Agnihotri, Seema Lokhandwala
S22	Habitat microclimate: importance and collection methods	Dr Aavika Dhanda, Rohan Baishya
S23	Telling Stories That Matter: Can Storytelling Be a Scientific Tool for Conservation Impact?	Shruti Ghosh, Jeremiah Kennedy
S24	Finding, telling and sharing stories of conservation and natural history using archives	Anjali Ramachandran, Nisha Bhakat
S25	Using eBird Data for Ecology and Conservation	Faizee Ali Khan, Ashwin Vishwanathan, Tarun Menon
S26	Wildlife content creation and engaging people through social media	Kayden Anthony, Sandra Pereira
S27	Let's talk SDMs: The why and how of designing your own distribution modelling study	Imran Samad, Divyashree Rana

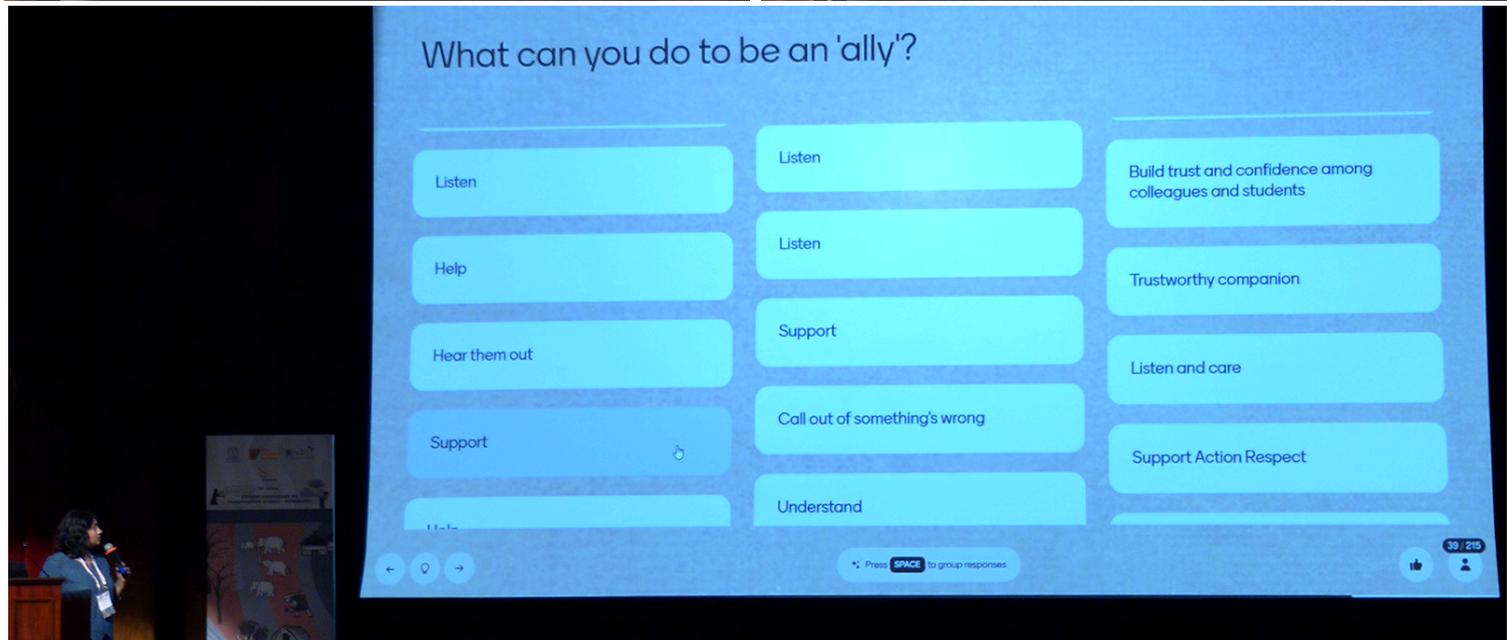
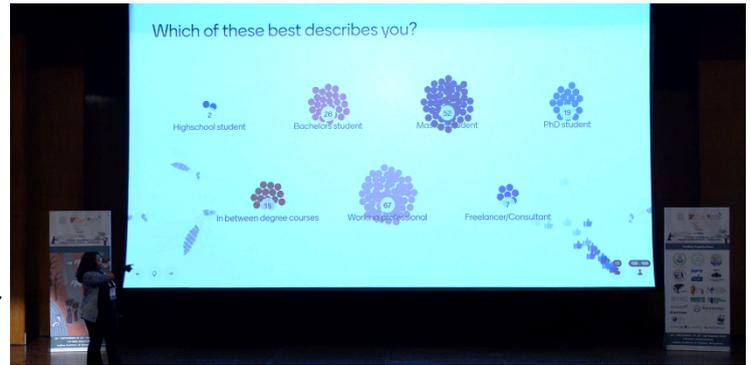
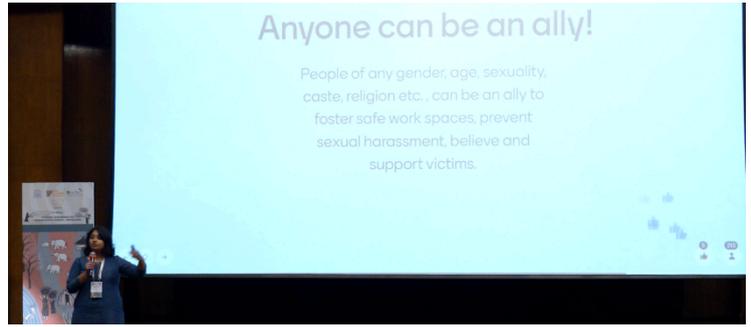
Long Workshops

S No	Long Workshops	Resource Person(s)
L1	Animal behaviour and its role in conservation	Devica Ranade, Nishant Srinivasaiyah, Samira Agnihotri, Ishika Ramakrishna
L2	How R you doing? Using the R platform for managing and analyzing ecological datasets	Raman Kumar, Mukesh Kandpal
L3	Plant Identification: Advanced Workshop	Bibidishananda Basu, Arun Kumar N, Gauravya Mohan, Sayee Girdhari
L4	Fellowship and grant writing in Ecological Sciences	Sabuj Bhattacharyya, Chandrima Home
L5	Qualitative Research in Conservation: Power, Positionality and Practice	Budhaditya Das, Venkat Ramanujam
L6	Foundations of Conservation and Nature Education: frameworks, design, practice and ethics	Priyanka Prakash, Vena Kapoor, Rachita Sinha
L7	Map with Biswa: An introduction to GIS & Mapping using QGIS	Biswa Bhusana Mahapatra
L8	Thorny Subjects: Conducting Interviews on Conservation-Induced Conflict	Madhuri Ramesh, Sagarika Phalke
L9	Crafting Narratives for a Fragile World	Megha Moorthy, Radhika Raj
L10	Liberating GIS for environmental monitoring	Paul Pop
L11	Analysing count data – fitting and interpreting Generalised Linear Models (GLMs)	Kavita Isvaran
L12	Games for Conservation	Peeyush Sekhsaria, Priti Bangal, Karthik Natarajan, Prasad Sandbhor
L13	Bioacoustics in Conservation	Viral Joshi, Taksh Sangwan, Rohit Chakravarty, Isha Bopardikar, Divya Panicker, Seema Lokhandwala

A Mandatory POSH Session at SCCS Bengaluru

On Day 1, SCCS-Bengaluru 2025 hosted a mandatory session on Workplace Safety and the Prevention of Sexual Harassment in Ecology and Conservation. The session was led by Nisha Bhakat, who spoke about recognising, preventing, and responding to sexual harassment within conservation and wildlife workspaces.

Following her talk, Suhel Quader and Ishika Ramakrishna addressed the audience, introducing the mission and activities of CEASE India, an initiative committed to enabling safe and respectful work environments in conservation. They reiterated CEASE's zero-tolerance policy towards sexual harassment and highlighted the organisation's resources, training efforts, and ongoing support for individuals and institutions striving to build safer, more equitable professional cultures. [CEASE India](https://www.ceaseindia.org/).



QUEER Circle at SCCS Bengaluru 2025

The fifth edition of the Queer Circle was facilitated by Sahil Nijhawan, Nisha Bhakat, Avik Banerjee, and Ishika Ramakrishna. Conducted as a closed-door online gathering, the Queer Circle continued to serve as a safe, confidential space for queer-identifying field ecologists and conservation practitioners. Participants shared lived experiences, discussed challenges unique to LGBTQIA+ individuals in ecology and conservation, and connected with peers navigating similar professional landscapes.

This year also included an in-person meet-up for queer attendees present at SCCS Bengaluru, further strengthening community bonds and fostering a sense of belonging within the broader conference environment.

SCCS-Bengaluru's Third Neurodivergent Circle

The third Neurodivergent Circle at SCCS Bengaluru was facilitated by Swadha Pardesi, bringing together participants who self-identify as neurodivergent and work across conservation and climate-related fields. The session created an empathetic, non-judgmental space for individuals to share their experiences, reflect on workplace challenges, and discuss meaningful ways to make conservation spaces more accessible and inclusive of neurodiversity.

Both online and in-person formats were offered. The online circles ensured anonymity and broader participation, including attendees not physically present at the conference, while the in-person gathering enabled deeper interpersonal connections for those on campus.

Other features of SCCS Bengaluru 2025

Eco-friendly Conference Kits

Reinforcing SCCS-Bengaluru's commitment to sustainability, the 2025 conference kits featured notebooks made entirely from recycled paper and pens that were 95% plastic-free, crafted from recycled paper materials.

Handmade Paper ID Cards and organic cotton lanyards

The conference ID cards were made from 100% wood-free, sustainable, handmade paper using upcycled cotton scraps, while the lanyards were crafted from organic cotton. The cards symbolised renewal and sustainability, reflecting the conference's dedication to environmentally responsible practices.

Volunteer T-shirts

Special volunteer T-shirts were designed to help attendees easily identify the SCCS 2025 volunteers. Featuring artwork by Anshruta Anirudh, the conference artist for the year, these shirts served both a functional role during the event and as cherished keepsakes afterwards.

All conference artworks were created by Anshruta, who was also featured at the Artists' Corner at SCCS 2024. Her illustrations and visual design for SCCS 2025 beautifully captured the themes of collaboration, inclusion, and creativity that define the conference.

Waste Management

As a conservation-focused conference, SCCS-Bengaluru prioritised waste reduction and responsible waste management. Disposable packaging, plates, cups, and cutlery were completely avoided throughout the event. Leftover food from meals was collected by the caterers and redistributed to minimise waste. In keeping with sustainable practices, all presenters, participants, and volunteers were encouraged to opt for e-certificates in place of printed ones — an initiative that was well-received, with many choosing the digital option.



Student Awards

During the conference, the panel of evaluators selected three exceptional presentations in both the talk and poster categories, without assigning specific ranks. The names of the top three candidates for talks and posters were announced on the final day of the conference. These winners received a specially curated book bundle, a certificate of appreciation and a gift voucher from Decathlon. Additionally, two talks and two posters received special mentions for their noteworthy contributions.

The evaluation process focused on several critical aspects of the presentations, including academic rigour, the originality and innovation of the study, the contextual relevance of the research, and its potential impact on conservation research, practice, and discourse. The evaluators collaboratively determined the key criteria for assessing the presentations.

Furthermore, the evaluators provided personalised feedback to each participant. This feedback addressed elements such as presentation style, scientific quality, research design, conservation implications, and areas for improvement. Talks were assessed by a unified panel of evaluators, while posters were reviewed by separate groups based on thematic categories.

Talk & Poster Prize-recipients

Talk Prize-recipients

- **Abhirami C**
Coffee removal benefits native plant recruitment in abandoned coffee agroforests of Western Ghats
- **Chaithanya Arjunwadkar**
Wave Action Mediates Coral Reef Community Structure and Divergent Post-Bleaching Recovery Trajectories in the Andaman Islands
- **Juno Negi**
Wildlife vs Checkboxes—Why qualitative enquiry matters in human-wildlife studies

Talk Special Mentions

- **Faizee Ali Khan**
Ooty this summer? Using Citizen Science to Track Avian Elevational Migration in the Nilgiris.
- **Gayomini Panagoda**
Network analysis reveals wind energy impact on waterbird movements in Mannar; a critical site of the Central Asian Flyway



Poster Prize-recipients

- **Debangini Ray**
Entangled Urban Lives: Human-Owl Relationships in Indian Cities through a Multispecies Ethnographic Lens
- **Aayush Gupta**
Legacy effects of Woody Invasive Species on the unique Shola-Grassland mosaic ecosystem of Upper Nilgiris: A belowground comparative analysis
- **Ritam Dey**
The Colored Wings Fading Fast: Small Steps toward BIG Impact

Poster Special Mentions

- **K P Akilan**

Global economic impacts of invasive termite species

- **Vandana Kannan**

Over the Canopy and Under the Burrow: Understanding the Ecology of Two Nocturnal Cryptic Mammals in Melseemai, Tamil Nadu



Donors and Financials

SCCS-Bengaluru is developing long-term relationships with many of its donors and is glad to be supported by a diverse set of institutions and individuals. Nature Conservation Foundation managed the finances for SCCS 2025.

DONORS

Thanks to our generous donors, we raised Rs. 63,07,843.00/- towards the conference. We gratefully acknowledge the financial support we received from the donors listed below.



A.M.M. FOUNDATION



We also gratefully acknowledge in-kind support from the following individuals and organisations:

1. Main conference venue – JN Tata Auditorium, National Science Seminar Complex, Indian Institute of Science (IISc)
2. Workshop venues at IISc – Centre for Ecological Sciences (CES), Department of Management Studies (MGMT), Microbiology & Cell Biology (MCB), Department of Materials Engineering (MTE)
3. Accommodation – Indian Academy of Science Guest House, IISc Main Guest House, IISc Centenary Visitors House, Hoysala & Jawahar Guest House
4. National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS) for organisational support.

- Avian and Reptile Rehabilitation Center, Bangalore University, Dakshin Foundation, Centre for Ecological Sciences - IISC, IIT KANPUR, JAIN (Deemed-to-be University), National Centre for Biological Sciences, Nature Conservation Foundation, Mount Carmel College, Srishti Manipal Institute of Art, Design and Technology (SMI) and ATREE – Volunteers

INCOME

Apart from the INR 70,56,500.00 donated by the donors listed above, we also raised INR 13,01,320.00 through conference registration, accommodation and through the sale of t-shirts and conference kits. This plus the bank interest, makes the total income INR 8,357,820.00.

EXPENDITURE:

SCCS 2025 incurred a total expenditure of INR 59,35,493.00

No.	Description	Total
1	Consultancy Charges (Conference Administrator, Illustrator, IISc Staff, Assistance & other consultations)	₹9,07,000.00
2	Venue (Auditorium + lecture/seminar halls)	₹4,26,900.00
3	Catering + Volunteer Dinner + Volunteer food allowance	₹14,28,054.00
4	Accommodation	₹4,16,968.00
5	Travel & Bursary Local Travel; Bursaries: Indian; Bursaries: International; Resource people travel; Plenary: Indian (4); Plenary: International (2); Panellists (5))	₹14,88,708.00
6	Website	₹3,73,116.00
7	Conference Kits (Volunteer T-shirts, Registration kits, Printing & Stationery)	₹3,20,747.00
8	Equipment & Media	₹5,69,00.00
9	Miscellaneous	₹5,000.00
	Total	₹59,35,493.00

*NCBS donates poster boards.

Bursaries

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, the conference offered partial travel reimbursements to student presenters, enabling them to travel to Bengaluru from their respective hometowns. This year SCCS-BNG facilitated the travel of 26 students from India and 11 students from four countries (Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Kenya).

People behind the conference

The 16th edition of SCCS-BNG was largely successful due to the excellent assistance and support of key people.

Organising Committee

1. Alissa Barnes (Independent Researcher)
2. Anubhab Khan (Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science - Bengaluru)
3. Asmita Sengupta (Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment)
4. Ishika Ramakrishna (Centre for Wildlife Studies)
5. Jignasa Patel (Nature Conservation Foundation)
6. Vidyadhar Atkore (Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History)

Conference Administrator

1. Sruthy Boopathy

Administrative & Support Team

1. Alpcord Network Events & Conferences Management Company Pvt Ltd
2. Smita Prabhakar, Vinay Hegde, Sunil Kumar (Nature Conservation Foundation)
3. Basavaraj, Raghavendra, Jagdeesha from the Centre for Ecological Science, IISc
4. PP Ranjith, Satish (National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bengaluru)

Advisory and Welfare Council

1. Jayshree Ratnam
2. Kavita Isvaran
3. Madhusudhan MD
4. Marianne Manuel
5. Suhel Quader

Advisory Committee

1. Advait Edgaonkar (Indian Institute of Forest Management)
2. Asmita Kabra (Ambedkar University)
3. Deepak Apte (Srushti Conservation Foundation)
4. Firoz Ahmed (Aaranyak)
5. Ghazala Shahabuddin (Ashoka University)
6. Gopi Sundar (Senior Scientist at Seva Mandir and Co-chair, IUCN Stork, Ibis and Spoonbill Specialist Group)
7. Kamal Bawa (University of Massachusetts & Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment)
8. Krithi Karanth (Centre for Wildlife Studies CWS)
9. K.V. Devi Prasad (Dept. of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, Pondicherry University)
10. Mewa Singh (Biopsychology Department, University of Mysore)
11. Nitin Rai (Independent scholar)
12. Ravi Bhalla (Foundation for Ecological Research, Advocacy and Learning)
13. Rhys Green (Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge and SCCS - Cambridge)
14. Sejal Worah (WWF-India)
15. Shomita Mukherjee (Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, Coimbatore)
16. Uma Ramakrishnan (National Centre for Biological Sciences)
17. V.B. Mathur (Retired Chairman, National Biodiversity Board)

Working Groups

Plenary Working Group

Bharti Dharapuram
Pankaj Sekhsaria
Prasanna NS
Sartaj Ghuman

Workshops Working Group

Akshay Surendra
Karan Deshpande
Labonie Roy

Abstracts Working Group

Anuradha Batabyal
Arundhati Jagadish
Budhaditya Das
Iravatee Majgaonkar
Priti Bangal

Abstract Reviewers

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Workshop Resource Persons

1. Yams Srikanth
2. Stella James
3. Deyatima Ghosh
4. Maitreya Sil
5. Sambita Modak
6. Sikha Hariharan
7. Sayee Girdhari
8. Anish Paul
9. Pritha Dey
10. Malavika Kamath
11. P. Jeganathan
12. Pooja Pawar
13. Pankaj Koparde
14. Prasad Kulkarni
15. Paul Antony Mangaly
16. Aditya Bari
17. Devica Ranade
18. Nishant Srinivasaiah
19. Samira Agnihotri
20. Ishika Ramakrishna
21. Raman Kumar
22. Mukesh Kandpal
23. Bibidishananda Basu
24. Arun Kumar N
25. Gauravya Mohan
26. Sayee Girdhari
27. Sabuj Bhattacharyya
28. Chandrima Home
29. Budhaditya Das
30. Venkat Ramanujam

31. Priyanka Prakash
32. Rachita Sinha
33. Vena Kapoor
34. Biswa Bhusana Mahapatra
35. Madhuri Ramesh
36. Sagarika Phalke
37. Megha Moorthy
38. Radhika Raj
39. Paul Pop
40. Kavita Isvaran
41. Peeyush Sekhsaria
42. Priti Bangal
43. Karthik Natarajan
44. Prasad Sandbhor
45. Viral Joshi
46. Taksh Sangwan
47. Rohit Chakravarty
48. Isha Bopardikar
49. Divya Panicker
50. Seema Lokhandwala
51. Kavita Isvaran
52. Swapna Nelaballi
53. Narayan Sharma
54. Sudeshna Gupta
55. Jithin V
56. Rishika Pardikar
57. Aishani Goswami
58. Rhea Lopez

59. Siddharth Agarwal
60. Sambita Modak
61. Chandrima Home
62. Sohail Madan
63. Abhishek Paliwal
64. Sneha Shahi
65. Rakesh Khanna A
66. Kadambari Deshpande
67. Vedant Barje
68. Archana Bhatt
69. Vipindas
70. Andrea Phillott
71. Chetan Rao
72. Samira Agnihotri
73. Seema Lokhandwala
74. Aavika Dhanda
75. Rohan Baishya
76. Shruti Ghosh
77. Jeremiah Kennedy
78. Anjali Ramachandran
79. Nisha Bhakat
80. Faizee Ali Khan
81. Ashwin Vishwanathan
82. Tarun Menon
83. Kayden Anthony
84. Sandra Pereira
85. Imran Samad
86. Divyashree Rana

Student Presentation Judges

Talks

1. Andrea Phillot
2. Chandrima Home
3. Kadambari Deshpande
4. Pritha Dey
5. Shruti Unnikrishnan
6. Swapna Nelaballi

Poster

1. Anindya 'Rana' Sinha
2. Deyatima Ghosh
3. Narayan Sharma
4. Samira Agnihotri
5. Swapna Nelaballi
6. Vivek Ramachandran

Volunteers

We received support from a substantial team of 45 volunteers representing different institutions based in Bengaluru (including Bangalore University, Dakshin Foundation, Centre for Ecological Sciences - IISC, Indian Institute of Science, National Centre for Biological Sciences, Nature Conservation Foundation, Wildlife Conservation Society - India (WCS-I), ATREE, Avian and Reptile Rehabilitation Center, Mount Carmel College, Autonomous, IIT KANPUR, JAIN (Deemed-to-be University) and Srishti Manipal Institute of Art, Design and Technology (SMI)).

Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment

(ATREE), Bengaluru

1. Dhiya Prasanth

Avian and Reptile Rehabilitation Center

1. Gagana HM

Bangalore University

1. Vijayananda K P
2. Vidyashree S

Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc, Bangalore

1. Aarthi R
2. Aayushi Gupta
3. Abin Krishna K S
4. Akancha Sinha
5. Anaswar P
6. Anmol R
7. Aparna C
8. Haradhan Ruidas
9. Jeet Vora
10. Jeevak Shrivasti
11. Jose Mathew
12. Manali B
13. Nanduraj S
14. Navaneel Sarangi
15. Nikhil Kollins
16. Nithin K A
17. Prakruti Mehta
18. Pranav Datar
19. Prankush Bansal
20. Sabyasachi parija

21. Saranya Sundar
22. Sofiya VM
23. Sonali
24. Swastik
25. Yogesh Kumar KC

Dakshin Foundation, Bengaluru

1. Rahul MS
2. Samar Ahmad

IIT KANPUR

1. Rakshith R

National Centre for Biological Science, (NCBS) Bengaluru

1. Aparna Mishra
2. Radhika Rajendra
3. Bhaavya Malpani
4. Nandini Iyer

Nature Conservation Foundation (NCF), Bengaluru

1. Sreejith Jayakumar

JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

1. Shraddha Kumari K
2. Harsita

Mount Carmel College, Autonomous

1. Vishruti Baindoor
2. Kratika Jadon

Srishti Manipal Institute of Art, Design and Technology

1. Rajath

Independent

1. Bhuvan Raj K
2. Haaniah Ahmed





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Catering - Kamat's Palate Korner

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Other Supporters

1. Main conference venue – JN Tata Auditorium
2. Workshop venues at Indian Institute of Science – Centre for Ecological Sciences (CES), Department of Management Studies (MGMT), Microbiology & Cell Biology (MCB), Department of Materials Engineering (MTE)
3. Accommodation – Indian Academy of Science Guest House, IISc Main Guest House, IISc Centenary Visitors House, Hoysala & Jawahar Guest House

We also thank the organising institutions of SCCS-Bengaluru 2025 for all the institutional support that they have provided.

1. Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc
2. National Centre for Biological Sciences
3. Nature Conservation Foundation



STUDENT CONFERENCE ON CONSERVATION SCIENCE - BENGALURU

22-25 SEPTEMBER 2025 - JN TATA AUDITORIUM, IISC, BENGALURU
THEME: CONSERVATION AND COMMUNITIES



DAY 1: MONDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER 2025

TIME	EVENT	VENUE	
08:00 - 09:00	REGISTRATIONS & BREAKFAST	J N TATA - LOBBY & DINING HALL	
09:00 - 09:20	WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS	J N TATA AUDITORIUM	
09:20 - 10:20	TECHNICAL PLENARY I - SINDHU RADHAKRISHNA "ANIMAL AGENCY, HUMAN COMPASSION AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION"	J N TATA AUDITORIUM	
10:20 - 12:20	STUDENT TALKS: SESSION I	J N TATA AUDITORIUM	
	TALK TITLE	PRESENTER	
10:20 - 10:40	NETWORK ANALYSIS REVEALS WIND ENERGY IMPACT ON WATERBIRD MOVEMENTS IN MANNAR; A CRITICAL SITE OF THE CENTRAL ASIAN FLYWAY	GAYOMINI PANAGODA	
10:40 - 11:00	HIDDEN HIERARCHIES: EXPLORING GENDER POWER AND INEQUALITY IN HUMAN-WILDLIFE INTERACTIONS THROUGH FEMINIST POLITICAL ECOLOGY IN ASSAM NORTHEAST INDIA	HIMANGSHU KALITA	
11:00 - 11:20	BREAK		
11:20 - 11:40	WILDLIFE VS CHECKBOXES—WHY QUALITATIVE ENQUIRY MATTERS IN HUMAN-WILDLIFE STUDIES	JUNO NEGI	
11:40 - 12:00	BEAR- HUMAN RELATIONSHIP IN AND AROUND HAMPI A RELATIONAL PERSPECTIVE	MOHAMMED HISHAM	
12:00 - 12:20	MICROPLASTIC INGESTION AND ASSOCIATED HISTOPATHOLOGY IN PELAGIC SEABIRDS OF SRI LANKA	SANDANI IRESHA	
12:20 - 13:00	SESSION ON POSH	J N TATA AUDITORIUM	
13:00 - 14:00	LUNCH	DINING HALL	
14:00 - 16:30	SHORT WORKSHOPS	RESOURCE PERSON	VENUE
S1	THEATRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE: AN INTRODUCTION	YAMS SRIKANTH, STELLA JAMES	SEMINAR HALL C
S2	SMART MOVES: MAPPING EVOLUTIONARY FLEXIBILITY IN ANIMALS (USING PHYLOGENETIC TOOLS TO TRACE ADAPTABILITY FOR CONSERVATION INSIGHT)	DEYATIMA GHOSH, DR. MAITREYA SIL	CES CONFERENCE HALL
S3	INKING NATURE: A NATURE JOURNALING WORKSHOP	SAMBITA MODAK, SIKHA HARIHARAN	SEMINAR HALL B
S4	TREE IDENTIFICATION AND PHENOLOGY: BASIC WORKSHOP	SAYEE GIRDHARI	SEMINAR HALL A
S5	'OKAY, BUT WHAT'S THE STORY?' - A GUIDE TO READING AND SYNTHESIZING RESEARCH PAPERS	ANISH PAUL, PRITHA DEY, MALAVIKA KAMATH	CES READING ROOM
S6	LANGUAGE AND ECOLOGY - COMMUNICATING NATURE THROUGH LOCAL LANGUAGES	P. JEGANATHAN, POOJA PAWAR	MAIN AUDI
S7	CONSERVATION CAREERS: CAREERS IN ECOLOGY, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, AND SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES	PANKAJ KOPARDE, PRASAD KULKARNI	CES SEMINAR HALL
S8	HOW TO UTILIZE INATURALIST DATA FOR CONSERVATION AND RESEARCH PROJECTS	PAUL ANTONY MANGALY, ADITYA BARI	CES CLASSROOM
16:30 - 16:50	TEA BREAK	DINING HALL	
16:50 - 18:00	STUDENT POSTERS - SESSION I	J N TATA - LOBBY	
18:00 - 19:00	POPULAR OPEN PLENARY I - GEETHA RAMASWAMI "SEEING THE SEASON'S SIGNS: HOW CITIZEN SCIENCE IS HELPING DOCUMENT CHANGES IN BIODIVERSITY"	J N TATA AUDITORIUM	
19:00 - 20:00	LORIS WALK/ NOCTURNAL SPECIES WALK	IISC CAMPUS	

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THEME: CONSERVATION AND COMMUNITIES

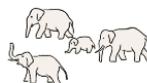


DAY 2: TUESDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2025

TIME	EVENT	RESOURCE PERSON	VENUE
07:00 - 08:00	BIRD WALK/ TREE WALK		IISC CAMPUS
08:00 - 09:00	REGISTRATIONS & BREAKFAST		J N TATA - LOBBY & DINING HALL
09:00 - 11:30	LONG WORKSHOPS		
L1	ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR AND ITS ROLE IN CONSERVATION	DEVICA RANADE, NISHANT SRINIVASIAH, SAMIRA AGNIHOTRI, ISHIKA RAMAKRISHNA	SEMINAR HALL A
L2	HOW R YOU DOING? USING THE R PLATFORM FOR MANAGING AND ANALYZING ECOLOGICAL DATASETS	RAMAN KUMAR, MUKESH KANDPAL	PHYSICS DEPT - LH-01
L3	PLANT IDENTIFICATION: ADVANCED WORKSHOP	BIBIDISHANANDA BASU, ARUN KUMAR N, GAURAVYA MOHAN, SAYEE GIRDHARI	PHYSICS DEPT - LH-05
L4	FELLOWSHIP AND GRANT WRITING IN ECOLOGICAL SCIENCES	SABUJ BHATTACHARYYA, CHANDRIMA HOME	BIO CHEMISTRY HALL
L5	QUALITATIVE RESEARCH IN CONSERVATION: POWER, POSITIONALITY AND PRACTICE	BUDHADITYA DAS, VENKAT RAMANUJAM	SEMINAR HALL B
L6	FOUNDATIONS OF CONSERVATION AND NATURE EDUCATION: FRAMEWORKS, DESIGN, PRACTICE AND ETHICS	PRIYANKA PRAKASH, VENA KAPOOR, RACHITA SINHA	CES CLASSROOM
L7	MAP WITH BISWA: AN INTRODUCTION TO GIS & MAPPING USING QGIS	BISWA BHUSANA MAHAPATRA	CES READING ROOM
L8	THORNY SUBJECTS: CONDUCTING INTERVIEWS ON CONSERVATION-INDUCED CONFLICT	MADHURI RAMESH, SAGARIKA PHALKE	CES CONFERENCE HALL
L9	CRAFTING NARRATIVES FOR A FRAGILE WORLD	MEGHA MOORTHY, RADHIKA RAJ	KI VASU HALL
L10	LIBERATING GIS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING	PAUL POP	CES SEMINAR HALL
L11	ANALYSING COUNT DATA - FITTING AND INTERPRETING GENERALISED LINEAR MODELS (GLMS)	KAVITA ISVARAN	CES LOTKA VOLTERA
L12	GAMES FOR CONSERVATION	PEEYUSH SEKHSARIA, PRITI BANGAL, KARTHIK NATARAJAN, PRASAD SANDBHOR	SEMINAR HALL C
L13	BIACOUSTICS IN CONSERVATION	VIRAL JOSHI, TAKSH SANGWAN, ROHIT CHAKRAVARTY, ISHA BOPARDIKAR, DIVYA PANICKER, SEEMA LOKHANDWALA	MAIN AUDITORIUM
11:30 - 11:50	TEA BREAK		
11:50 - 13:00	LONG WORKSHOPS		
13:00 - 14:00	LUNCH		DINING HALL
14:00 - 16:30	LONG WORKSHOPS		
16:30 - 16:50	TEA BREAK		DINING HALL
16:50 - 18:00	WHO'S WHO IN CONSERVATION - SESSION 1		J N TATA - LOBBY
18:00 - 19:00	CAREERS IN CONSERVATION - PANEL DISCUSSION		JN TATA AUDITORIUM
19:00 - 20:00	FILM SCREENING: MY OTTER DIARY BY SUGANDHI GADADHAR AND TEAM		JN TATA AUDITORIUM

STUDENT CONFERENCE ON CONSERVATION SCIENCE - BENGALURU

22-25 SEPTEMBER 2025 - JN TATA AUDITORIUM, IISC, BENGALURU
THEME: CONSERVATION AND COMMUNITIES

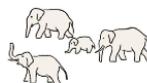


DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2025

TIME	EVENT	VENUE	
07:00 - 08:00	BIRD WALK/ TREE WALK	IISC CAMPUS	
08:00 - 09:00	REGISTRATIONS & BREAKFAST	J N TATA - LOBBY & DINING HALL	
09:00 - 10:00	TECHNICAL PLENARY 2 - SAMMY WAMBUA "NAVIGATING CONSERVATION GENOMICS IN EAST AFRICA: A PERSONAL JOURNEY, PRACTICAL LESSONS, AND A VISION FOR EQUITABLE SCIENCE"	J N TATA AUDITORIUM	
10:00 - 12:00	STUDENT TALKS: SESSION 2	J N TATA AUDITORIUM	
	DR AJITH KUMAR - TALK SERIES	PRESENTER	
10:00 - 10:20	RETHINKING RIVER DEPENDENCE: WATER-SOCIETY INTERACTIONS ALONG THE TAMIRAPARANI IN TIRUNELVELI DISTRICT TAMIL NADU	SNEHA SHAHI	
10:20 - 10:40	WAVE ACTION MEDIATES CORAL REEF COMMUNITY STRUCTURE AND DIVERGENT POST-BLEACHING RECOVERY TRAJECTORIES IN THE ANDAMAN ISLANDS	CHAITANYA ARJUNWADKAR	
10:40 - 11:00	COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES ON THE RETURN OF ELEPHANTS TO THE BANDHAVGARH LANDSCAPE	SIDDHARTH DIXIT	
11:00 - 11:20	BREAK		
11:20 - 11:40	OOTY THIS SUMMER? USING CITIZEN SCIENCE TO TRACK AVIAN ELEVATIONAL MIGRATION IN THE NILGIRIS.	FAIZEE ALI KHAN	
11:40 - 12:00	COFFEE REMOVAL BENEFITS NATIVE PLANT RECRUITMENT IN ABANDONED COFFEE AGROFORESTS OF WESTERN GHATS	ABHIRAMI C	
12:00 - 12:15	GROUP PHOTO	J N TATA AUDITORIUM	
12:15 - 13:00	WHO'S WHO IN CONSERVATION - SESSION 2	J N TATA - LOBBY	
13:00 - 14:00	LUNCH	DINING HALL	
14:00 - 16:30	SHORT WORKSHOPS	RESOURCE PERSON	VENUE
S1	STUDY DESIGN IN ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION	KAVITA ISVARAN	SEMINAR HALL A
S2	DATA DETOX IN R - CLEAN, WRANGLE, AND TRANSFORM YOUR ECOLOGICAL DATA	SWAPNA NELABALLI	CES CLASSROOM
S3	READING TREES: WAYS TO CONNECT WITH NATURE	NARAYAN SHARMA, SUDESHNA GUPTA	SEMINAR HALL B
S4	BABY STEPS OF COMMUNICATING CONSERVATION RESEARCH THROUGH PRINT AND SOCIAL MEDIA	JITHIN V. RISHIKA PARDIKAR	MAIN AUDI
S5	USING OPEN DATA FOR BETTER ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	AISHANI GOSWAMI, RHEA LOPEZ, SIDDHARTH AGARWAL	CES LOTKA VOLTERA
S6	TANGLED DATA, TANGIBLE TALES: ECOLOGICAL DATA TO STORYTELLING	SAMBITA MODAK, CHANDRIMA HOME	CES SEMINAR HALL
S7	TELLING WILD STORIES: A VISUAL TOOLKIT FOR CONSERVATIONISTS	SOHAIL MADAN, ABHISHEK PALIWAL	KI VASU HALL
S8	THE EMPIRE FLOATS BACK: RIVER SYSTEMS AND THEIR STAKEHOLDERS	SNEHA SHAHI	SEMINAR HALL C
S9	SENSORS IN THE FIELD: LOW-COST ECOLOGICAL MONITORING WITH ARDUINO	RAKESH KHANNA A	CES READING ROOM
S10	BAT ACOUSTIC DATA RECORDING, PROCESSING AND ANALYSES: NEW APPROACHES AND AUTOMATION	KADAMBARI DESHPANDE, VEDANT BARJE	CES CONFERENCE HALL
16:30 - 16:50	TEA BREAK	DINING HALL	
16:50 - 18:00	STUDENT POSTERS: SESSION 2	J N TATA - LOBBY	
18:00 - 19:00	POPULAR OPEN PLENARY 2 - BHARGAVI RAO "CLIMATE JUSTICE: GROUNDING CLIMATE ACTION IN EQUITY, RIGHTS, AND RESISTANCE"	J N TATA AUDITORIUM	
19:00 - 20:00	LORIS WALK/ NOCTURNAL SPECIES WALK	IISC CAMPUS	

STUDENT CONFERENCE ON CONSERVATION SCIENCE - BENGALURU

22-25 SEPTEMBER 2025 - JN TATA AUDITORIUM, IISC, BENGALURU
THEME: CONSERVATION AND COMMUNITIES



DAY 4: THURSDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2025

TIME	EVENT	VENUE	
07:00 - 08:00	BIRD WALK/ TREE WALK	IISC CAMPUS	
08:00 - 09:00	REGISTRATIONS & BREAKFAST	J N TATA - LOBBY & DINING HALL	
09:00 - 10:00	TECHNICAL PLENARY 3 - AJIT MENON "LIFE BELOW WATER: COMMUNITIES, CONSERVATION AND THE POLITICAL ECOLOGY OF THE COAST"	J N TATA AUDITORIUM	
10:00 - 12:00	STUDENT TALKS - SESSION 3	J N TATA AUDITORIUM	
	TALK TITLE	PRESENTER	
10:00 - 10:20	THE VULNERABILITY OF ENDEMIC VERTEBRATES IN SRI LANKA TO CLIMATE CHANGE	IRESHA WIJERATHNE	
10:20 - 10:40	SMALL RAYS BIG THREATS: QUANTIFYING MICROPLASTICS IN SCALY WHIPRAY (BREVITRYGON WALGA)	AAHELI BERA	
10:40 - 11:00	BETWEEN TRADITION AND TRANSITION: THE NARIKURAVAR'S HUNTING PRACTICES	PRAISY SWETHA S	
11:00 - 11:20	BREAK		
11:20 - 11:40	SEABIRD DIVERSITY AND BYCATCH IN FISHERIES AT THE EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE (EEZ) OF SRI LANKA	DINAL MEECLE	
11:40 - 12:00	OVERCOMING LINNEAN AND WALLACEAN SHORTFALLS IN MELON BARBS (TELEOSTI: CYPRINIDAE: HALUDARIA) ENDEMIC TO THE WESTERN GHATS OF INDIA	SHUBHIKA PANDEY	
12:00 - 13:00	BIRDS OF A FEATHER: THEMED NETWORKING SESSION	J N TATA PREMISES	
13:00 - 14:00	LUNCH	DINING HALL	
14:00 - 16:30	SHORT WORKSHOPS	RESOURCE PERSON	
S1	LIVING LANDSCAPES: CONNECTING COMMUNITIES WITH CONSERVATION	DR. ARCHANA BHATT, DR VIPINDAS	SEMINAR HALL A
S2	RESEARCH WITH FISHERS AND OTHER ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE HOLDERS	ANDREA PHILLOTT, CHETAN RAO	CES CLASSROOM
S3	SOUND AND ITS SENSORY EXPERIENCES IN SHAPING HUMAN-ANIMAL RELATIONSHIPS AND INTERACTIONS	DR. SAMIRA AGNIHOTRI, SEEMA LOKHANDWALA	MAIN AUDI
S4	HABITAT MICROCLIMATE: IMPORTANCE AND COLLECTION METHODS	DR AAVIKA DHANDA, ROHAN BAISHYA	CES READING ROOM
S5	TELLING STORIES THAT MATTER: CAN STORYTELLING BE A SCIENTIFIC TOOL FOR CONSERVATION IMPACT?	SHRUTI GHOSH, JEREMIAH KENNEDY	CES CONFERENCE HALL
S6	FINDING, TELLING AND SHARING STORIES OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL HISTORY USING ARCHIVES	ANJALI RAMACHANDRAN, NISHA BHAKAT	SEMINAR HALL B
S7	USING EBIRD DATA FOR ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION	FAIZEE ALI KHAN, ASHWIN VISHWANATHAN, TARUN MENON	CES LOTKA VOLTERA
S8	WILDLIFE CONTENT CREATION AND ENGAGING PEOPLE THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA	KAYDEN ANTHONY, SANDRA PEREIRA	SEMINAR HALL C
S9	LET'S TALK SDMS: THE WHY AND HOW OF DESIGNING YOUR OWN DISTRIBUTION MODELLING STUDY	IMRAN SAMAD, DIVYASHREE RANA	CES SEMINAR HALL
16:30 - 16:50	TEA BREAK	DINING HALL	
17:30 - 18:30	POPULAR OPEN PLENARY 3 - RAZA KAZMI "TRACKS FROM THE PAST: IMPORTANCE OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH IN CONSERVATION AND WILDLIFE SCIENCE"	JN TATA AUDITORIUM	
18:30 - 19:30	CLOSING CEREMONY	JN TATA AUDITORIUM	



