

# Wetland Restoration at Nallusamy Checkdam



## Background

Wetlands are increasingly threatened at an alarming rate by pollution, habitat degradation/loss, invasive species, and over exploitation. This is more so the case with urban and semi urban wetlands that are also threatened by increasing developmental projects that invariably release effluents into wetlands. Some of these threats can to be addressed through ecological restoration. As part of this vision, Zooreach has undertaken ecological restoration of Nallusamy Checkdam with support of Bosch Global Software Technologies.

## Activities conducted during the reporting period 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026

- 🐾 Foster multistakeholder collaboration to ensure holistic restoration and resilience.
- 🐾 Continue running the Coimbatore plains native plant nursery for on-ground restoration
- 🐾 Establish a native aquatic plant nursery to set up the plant polishing zone
- 🐾 Rapid biodiversity assessments at the study site for these taxonomic groups – birds, fishes, reptiles, amphibians, mammals, invertebrates, and plants.
- 🐾 Road kill surveys conducted at regular intervals.

## Key achievements and outcomes

First-of-its-kind nursery of native terrestrial and aquatic plant of wetlands of the plains

## Challenges faced

Delays in permissions from the authorities.

## Location

Nallusamy Checkdam, Keeranatham, Coimbatore

## Participants

Local community members are being networked with and the education programs will be held in the next financial year

## Key partnerships and Collaborations

Kosika Neer Karangal; Keeranatham Panchayat office; Annur Taluka Tahsildar office; District Collectorate Office; Local communities; Local government schools

## Measurable outcomes

- 🐾 Setting up of the first-of-its-kind 5,000 native terrestrial plants nursery and 3,000 native aquatic plants nursery for the plains and wetlands of open natural ecosystems of Tamil Nadu.
- 🐾 Educator training manual and flash cards of open natural ecosystems of Coimbatore with over 50 species (plants and animals) with information about the species including warnings about nonnative plant species.



Aquatic plant nursery with over 5 species. © Koshik V. Rao



© Koshik V. Rao



Planting native seeds in grow trays. © Koshik V. Rao

- Recorded over 130 individual roadkills over 25 surveys.

### Acknowledgments

Thanks to all the subject experts who have tirelessly supported and helped with the biodiversity surveys, and collaborators, local community members and Bosch team for supporting this project.

### Future plans/next steps

- Outreach with local community members
- Removal of invasive species at the study site around the wetland
- Plantation of 2,500 native terrestrial and aquatic plants to strengthen the bunds,

build riparian vegetation, set up the plant polishing zone and promote native biodiversity.

- Continue the rapid biodiversity assessments and the systematic roadkill surveys
- Conduct surveys for the two endemic plant species *Caralluma diffusa* and *Cordia diffusa*.



Planting native lily plants!  
© Kritika P.



Teamwork at the Coimbatore plains native nursery. by the Zooreach office. © Poojitha Dupati

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