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Dr. Kalesh Sadashivan
Naturalist, TNHS

Shri. Amithsen Upadheye
Wildlife Journalist

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Activity Report for January – June 2024

A News Media article titled "SuperCool" drafted upon the results derived from the research by Dr Rajesh Gopinath (Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering & Key Liaison-OIKOS, BMSIT&M) on Park Cooling Effect for Bengaluru's' Public Green Spaces; has been published in the Cover Page of the News Media "Bangalore Mirror", on 12th Jan 2024.



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OIKOS started the year 2024 with sensitization of members upon the concept of Environmental Stewardship. This was accomplished in the form of NatShot III (Candid Photograph Competition). The Event was jointly organized with the support of BMSIT Photography Club. Three best Concepts were awarded.



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OIKOS has initiated Seed Ball making activity on 12th January 2024. Organised in collaboration with Green Circle NGO, the activity was spear-headed by Alumni member Ms Jhansi Priya. Around 300 seed balls of fruit bearing trees were prepared in about 30 minutes. These were further used to enhance neighborhood greenness.



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Dr Rajesh Gopinath (Key Liaison - OIKOS & Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, BMS Institute of Technology and Management) has delivered an Expert Talk on "Understanding the Impact of Climate Change on our World" on 6th February 2024, at Christmas University, Kengeri Campus.



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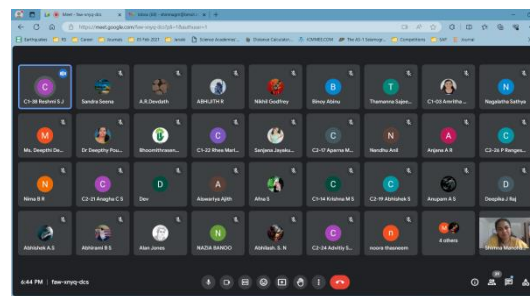
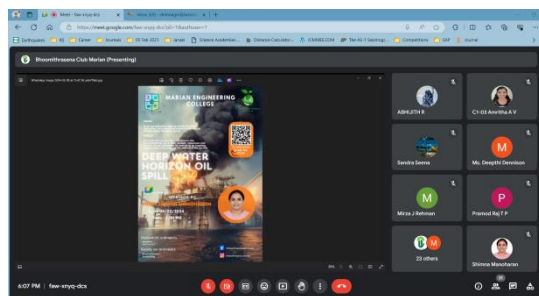
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Mrs Shimna Manoharan (Faculty Member - OIKOS & Assistant Professor Department of Civil Engineering, delivered a Webinar on "Understanding the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill: Lessons for Environmental Stewardship" at Bhoomitra Sena Club of Marian Engineering College, Kerala, on 8th February 2024.



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Dr Rajesh Gopinath (Key Liaison ~ OIKOS & Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering) has participated in the Annual Hornbill Festival, organised by the Forest Department (Govt. of Karnataka) on 18th Feb 2024, at Dandeli, Karnataka.



Dr Rajesh Gopinath (Key Liaison ~ OIKOS & Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering) has led a team that carried out Annual Faunal Survey at the Meghamalai Wildlife Sanctuary, Theni, Tamil Nadu, during 22-25 Feb 2024. The event was organised jointly by Forest Dept. (Govt. of Tamil Nadu) and TNHS.

Dr Rajesh Gopinath (Key Liaison ~ OIKOS & Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering) has delivered an Expert Talk on "EMS as an effective tool in sustainable Hazardous Waste Management" on 22nd March 2024, at the 2-day Workshop on Toxicity Reduction; organised by Department of Civil Engineering, Dr AIT, Bengaluru.



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Student members of OIKOS (Mr Rakshit, Mr Naveen, Mr Kiran and Mr Indushekhar) under co-supervision of Dr Rajesh Gopinath (Key Liaison OIKOS & Associate professor, department of Civil Engineering) have won 2nd prize at the Inter-college Students UG Project Competition, at RRIT, Bengaluru on 3rd May 2024. They have developed an eco-friendly high-strength Paver Block using Waste-Ceramics for medium-traffic roads. The project also won Funding of INR 10,000 from IWWA - Bengaluru centre. The student also won 2nd prize at Intercollegiate Project Competition 'SAMVEEKSHAN' organized by NMIT on 21st May 2024.



Student members of OIKOS have undertaken an industrial visit on 18th May 2024, at GRKMS Pvt Ltd (Authorised Recyclers recognised by (CPCB)); to be sensitized with E-waste handling Processes, OSH details and Refurbishment aspects. The students were accompanied by Faculty members Mrs Shimna M and Dr Rajesh Gopinath.



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On 22nd May 2024, OIKOS has arranged its traditional farewell function for its Student Coordinators from final year Batch. On this occasion OIKOS has also honored Ms Monisha KY with its Inaugural Green Alumni Award for her invaluable efforts and contribution to Environment and Society.



On 22nd May 2024, OIKOS has also honored its Student Coordinator Ms Lavanya Kovi with its Inaugural Green Achievers Award for her invaluable efforts and contribution to OIKOS, Environment and Society.



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On the occasion of World Biodiversity Day, OIKOS has conducted NatQuiz II. Three 3 best Teams were awarded by the Office Bearers. The competition with 3 levels had video-picture based questions encompassed upon the topics such as Wildlife, Biodiversity Hotspots, Bio-mimicry, Act(s), Binomial Classification, IUCN status, National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries etc.



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Student members of OIKOS in collaboration with Green Circle NGO have developed a physical model depicting real-life situation of Avalahalli lake Kaluve rejuvenation. The physical model will be used by Green circle to create awareness about need for conservation of lakes and Raja Kaluves.



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As part of outreach of OIKOS, Dr Rajesh Gopinath (Key liaison OIKOS) has engaged an orientation session on 31st May 2024, for students of Oxford College of Engineering upon the topic “Need for Environmental Stewardship among Undergraduate students”.

With this year’s World Environment Day (5th June 2024) theme as “Ecosystem restoration”, OIKOS celebrated it viz. Environment-theme Ethnic Day and Sapling Plantation to raise environmental consciousness. The occasion was graced by Mr. Akul Balaji and Ms. Saanvi Shetty.



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Several OIKOS Student members have taken part in World Environment Day Online Quiz organized by EIACP Programme Centre - Resource Partner at Sálím Ali Centre for Ornithology & Natural History, South India Centre of Wildlife Institute of India, Coimbatore on 05 June 2024. This was envisaged as part of the Environmental Information, Awareness, Capacity Building & Livelihood Programme on Wetland Ecosystems

OIKOS Student members have taken part in Sensitization Drive on creating Awareness among School Kids upon E-waste: Need for Sustainable Management and Perils of Mismanagement on 25th June 2024 across various schools in Yelahanka.



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