



Thanal Newsletter

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COP 29 A Crucial Moment for Climate Action



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COP 29

A CRUCIAL MOMENT FOR CLIMATE ACTION

As we approach COP 29, the annual UN Climate Change Conference (11 Nov 2024- 22 Nov 2024), the global community finds itself at a critical juncture. COP 29, set to take place in Baku, Azerbaijan, will have representatives from nearly 200 countries to discuss and negotiate actions to tackle the worsening climate crisis. The focus of this year's conference includes stepping up efforts to cut greenhouse gas emissions, enhancing climate adaptation strategies, increasing climate finance for developing nations, and solidifying the implementation of the Paris Agreement's goals.

However, the political backdrop of COP 29 presents significant challenges. The recent election of the U.S. President Donald Trump has raised concerns globally, given his previous administration's history of withdrawing from the Paris Agreement and rolling back environmental regulations. Adding to the complexity, Azerbaijan, the host nation, has a controversial track record when it comes to climate action. The country has often been criticised for its heavy reliance on fossil fuels and lack of proactive climate policies. This reputation has sparked apprehension about Azerbaijan's commitment to fostering a truly ambitious and effective dialogue during the conference.

Despite these uncertainties, there is still hope that COP 29 can serve as a platform for renewed commitments and innovative solutions. With growing pressure from civil society, youth activists, and vulnerable nations, the world is watching closely. We remain optimistic that global leaders will rise to the occasion, prioritising the urgent need for coordinated climate action to protect our planet and ensure a sustainable future for all.



LEARNING EXCHANGE, OUTCOME DOCUMENTATION TRAINING AND CAMPAIGN STRATEGY MEETING HELD AT MALAYSIA (OCT 3- 5, 2024)



All the member organisations of Pesticide Action Network Asia Pacific (PANAP) gathered at Penang, Malaysia to discuss the progress of their projects in the areas of advocating for the phase out of HHPs, advancing Agroecology, climate change resilience, biodiversity conservation, improved health, nutrition, food security and income, empowerment of women/youth, the challenges faced and to design a methodology of assessing the impact of the projects, effectively documenting the impacts and to exchange knowledge and learnings from other organisations on how to improve the impacts. Thanal Executive Director Mr. Jayakumar, Climate and Infocom Coordinator Ms. Anju Babu and Agroecology Project Officer, Ms. Athira Krishnan Participated in the Conference held at Penang, Malaysia.

Here is a note by Ms. Athira Krishnan about her experience at the PANAP meeting at Penang

‘It was a great opportunity for me to attend the ‘Learning Exchange, Outcome Documentation and Campaign Strategy Meeting’ hosted by Pesticide Action Network Asia Pacific at Penang, Malaysia. It was a 3-day programme where PANAP and its 8 partnering organisations from 8 countries participated. Being my first international trip, the entire journey was filled with anxiety and excitement. The training programme started with a self-introduction session where we got familiarised with each other followed by small group discussions, presentations, experience sharing, reviewing ongoing projects and upcoming project plannings. The training sessions mainly focused on discussions about the importance of documenting and major documenting methods that can enhance our project outcomes.

Apart from all these, for me, this experience was not only a professional milestone but also an invaluable learning platform. As a BSc (Hons) Agriculture graduate, I gained more insights on Sustainable Agriculture and food systems in different regions of the world, agricultural policies and schemes, policy interventions related to organic farming, agrochemical usage patterns,

challenges and opportunities existing, which I could use for my career build ups. As a feather on the cap, I also got a chance to present the field findings of Biodiversity monitoring conducted at Wayanad. I also enjoyed connecting with experts from various countries, experiencing diverse cultures, and trying new foods. Overall, this program was a meaningful step in my career journey.

SINDHU'S JOURNEY OF RESILIENCE

As we are nearing the last year of our NABARD Tribal Development Project at Pathanamthitta, it is the lives of people like Sindhu, who give us strength to keep going and whom we can show as a model to other beneficiaries to inspire them.

In the heart of Kurumbanmoozhi village resides a force to be reckoned with - Sindhu, the epitome of female strength. She is a beacon of light, a pillar of support for all who seek refuge in her



presence. As the secretary of the Village Promotion Committee, Sindhu has showcased her exceptional skills in a multitude of endeavours. Since the inception of the Pulari Self Help Group of which she is the leader, Sindhu has fearlessly charted a new course through various activities, leaving an indelible mark on the community. What Sindhu could not achieve on her own, she accomplished through the power of teamwork. The group used to rely solely on MGNREGA programs for income, but they decided to diversify their sources of revenue. They ventured into selling dried fish, various powders like chilly and

coffee, and even cultivated tapioca-banana and fodder grass. Each member made individual investments, and together they thrived.

During the Sabarimala season, the group set up a stall on the Sabarimala road using funds from the Tribal Devt Fund scheme. They together made a profit of Rs 2 lakh. The success of the Pulari self-help group led by Sindhu inspired the formation of two more groups in Kurumbanmoozhi. It was truly a victory for Sindhu and for us.

Through NABARDs TDF scheme, Sindhu also received 3 goats and 24 chickens. As someone who has been raising goats for years, she was overjoyed to have these animals by her side. She raised and sold the goats, earning around Rs. 85,000. Sindhu was able to earn around Rs 8000 from poultry. Sindhu's journey is a testament to the power of determination, hard work, and effective leadership. Her ability to inspire others and drive success is truly remarkable.

Her determination to find ways to generate income from any resources she has and turn it into a successful venture is truly admirable. According to Sindhu, her motivation to stay active comes from the NABARD TDF project. It is inspiring to see many people in Kurumban Moozhi following in Sindhu's footsteps and achieving great success.

ON SITE ORGANIC FARMING TRAINING



Thanal- NABARD ITDP (Integrated Tribal Development project) at Kulathupuzha, Kollam is moving on at a steady pace towards its goal to achieve the holistic development of tribal communities by implementing sustainable agricultural and livelihood systems tailored for the identified tribal families.

Thanal had also undertaken a Nutri- garden project in August to make the beneficiaries self-sufficient in vegetable cultivation and to ensure that each household gets fresh and pesticide free vegetables, steady supply of nutritious food and environmental sustainability which shall improve their overall well-being. This consisted of distributing vegetable kits containing 11 types of seeds, bio control agents and micronutrients to 23 Self Help Groups and taking a training class for them on organic vegetable cultivation. Every SHG actively participated in planting vegetable seeds in plots. During the field visits of crops and nutri gardens of Kadamankodu and kuzhaviyodu hamlets in October, we observed attack of some common pests and diseases. An on-site training was arranged for them on 19th October for kadamancode beneficiaries at nutri garden discussing various problems found at their fields and organic practices to manage ongoing diseases and further organic remedies like neem oil garlic emulsion, turmeric-water spray and application of pseudomonas, Beauveria bassiana were suggested for prevention of aphid, white fly, beet armyworm, leaf roller attacks and control of leaf spot, anthracnose and mosaic disease. Training was given on setting up of insects' traps such as sticky traps, basil-traps, light traps and preparation and usage of homemade manures – jeevamritham, fish amino-acid, EM solution etc.

ARTICLES



‘Enhancing Agricultural Resilience and Energy Efficiency amid Climate Change’ - Article by Smt. Usha S, was published in the quarterly magazine by SEEM - Energy Manager.

Link: <https://thanaltrust.org/article/enhancing-agricultural-resilience-and-energy-efficiency-amid-climate-change/>



‘Oru manivayal punarujeevana gadha “ - By Ms Athira Krishnan , in Kerala Karshakan

Link : <https://thanaltrust.org/resources/articles/>

ACCOLADES



“It is a moment of pride and happiness that Smt Usha, Director, Thanal has been awarded the best activist in Organic Farming and Revival of traditional Paddy varieties by the Agricultural Products Producers and Traders Association (APPTA) , Nagercoil.”

VIDEO OF THE MONTH

View the secrets of successful organic farming in this inspiring video featuring Kerala’s top organic farmer, who has been honoured with the prestigious Kerala State Best Nutrient garden Award!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CsaQV7Cn_to



Your donation, regardless of its size, holds the power to catalyse positive change towards a greener and sustainable future.

Your support will enable us to extend our outreach to a wider range of beneficiaries, including farmers and marginal communities. With your contributions, we can provide essential assistance to small scale or disadvantaged farmers by giving them training, supplying organic seeds, saplings and other resources that are crucial for sustainable agriculture and safe food. These resources often come at a higher cost compared to conventional alternatives, making your support even more valuable.

For your convenience, we have provided our account details below:

Account Name: Thanal

Account Number: 21780100017799

**Bank Name: Federal Bank,
Sasthamangalam**

IFSC Code: FDRL0002178

Thank you once again for your generosity and commitment to our shared cause