

- c) For these areas, a sense of ownership to be created among the nearby population for total success of these activities.

Mr. Pardeshi drew everyone's attention towards upcoming Olympiad in 2008 and said that the aesthetic beauty of the city must be restored till then.

Mr. Khadse informed that construction of protection wall will start in 2007 to prevent encroachment and other adverse activities at Vetak Tekdi and construction of 3-4 water storage bodies is in progress.

Ms. Menon, CEE raised concern of maintaining the original habitats (like grasslands) in the plantation areas. Mr. Khadse replied that these habitats have been studied and plantation sites selected carefully.

Mr. Somesh of Tekdi group raised concern that these hills are used by trekking, rock climbing activities by numerous groups across the city and they should not be prohibited from using the areas. The plantation activities should be based on this consideration. Mr. Pardeshi replied that efforts will be made to involve the trekkers groups in planning, plantation and water conservation activities at these sites.

Mr. Khaire informed the participants about proposed Biodiversity Parks at Pune. For this purpose land from following areas have been acquired from the Maharashtra Government – Baner Tekdi (300 acres), Pashan (50 hectares), Mangdewadi (20 hectares), Devachi Urali (250 acres). Some of the activities at these sites would include providing protection to the sites, plantations of native species, soil and water conservation methods, vermicomposting and building 'green barrier' at Devachi Urali site to reduce problems related to garbage heaps.

Mr. Erach Bharucha, BVIEER suggested that these sites must be used for mass school and public environment education activities with involvement of PMC Education Department. Baner and Pashan sites should have low cost interpretation centres. The population around these sites must be involved in management activities of these areas.

Mr. Khadse suggested that these sites should have composting activities so that all organic waste can be recycled. Local NGOs should be involved in this task. The biomass (humus) can be used for this because currently all the leaf litter flows down with rainfall. It is wastage of resources and puts an additional cost of cleaning Mula-Mutha rivers of the silt.

Mr. Somesh, Tekdi group informed all that they have formed network of volunteers groups in few tekdis of Pune. These volunteers are involved in prevention of fire. But they need to be equipped with adequate instruments. Water tankers of Fire Brigade can not reach these sites and hence beating is the only technique to prevent fire. Mr. Khadse expressed the same and mentioned need to identify and purchase such equipments. Mr. Pardeshi assured that this matter would be considered by the Greening Committee.

SECTOR: Mining (discussed in Western and Eastern/Central Regional Workshops)

<p>How Its Activities May Degrade Biodiversity (with specific examples at local, regional, state levels, providing appropriate data)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil erosion • Deforestation • Disasters due to mine dam bursts or other accidents, causing flora-fauna loss • Loss of flora, fauna in natural ecosystems and on agricultural land • Wetland diversion/drainage • Pollution of air, water, soil, with impacts on resident or downstream species • Habitat loss and fragmentation, Disruption of migratory routes, corridors • Human settlements in mining areas, putting pressure on surrounding natural resources • Displacement/cultural loss, leading to loss of biodiversity-related knowledge • Loss of traditional knowledge/livelihoods due to other activities • Noise related disturbance
<p>Historical / Root Causes for Nature of Activity (note: this would include aspects such as policies, attitudes, physical/ demographic factors, centralisation of powers, lack of participation, etc.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market forces/ Industrial and urban demand including consumer choices • Patterns of housing/ urbanisation the model of development. Energy intensive construction • Pressure of the mining lobby- national and international • Economic/ Logistic ease for mining at particular sites that are ecologically fragile • Contradictory development policies, schemes, laws, and departmental priorities • Corruption/greed leading to excessive mining and flouting of laws/norms • Lack of strong EIA related to biodiversity, in decision-making • Inappropriate mining technology • Insensitivity towards biodiversity/environmental issues in decision-making and implementation • Regeneration/Restoration/Reclamation using ecologically inappropriate species • No holistic land use plan with fragile limits being off-limits to mining or to certain kinds of
<p>Policy/Strategies and Actions That May Help Conserve Biodiversity (note: these should be separated into broad, policy-level objectives or thrusts, and the specific actions needed to achieve these broad objectives)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>mining</u> Strict compliance to mining laws/EIAs/ Environmental clearance conditions • Cost- internalisation of environmental and biodiversity damage, holistic cost benefit analysis • Education, awareness among decision makers and consumers of mineral products • Community permission before mining; mandatory public hearings • Stringent compensatory and mitigation measures, planned and implemented with local communities • Influencing local leaders and decision-makers through public movements, education, lobbying • Remove exemptions from EIAs/public hearings- all mining projects should be screened • Ecologically sensitive areas to be identified at state and national levels, and declared off-limits to any kind of mining • Legal status to remain forest/sanctuary even in mining areas • Alternatives to be provided to community for common lands that are brought under mining • Regional landscape planning and assessment, within which mining areas to be placed, through siting policy • Continuous monitoring, cost-benefit assessment and mitigation measures • Benefit sharing with communities and ecosystems that lose out to mining • Safety/hazard education by mining company to be mandatory • Prioritisation of local livelihood and ecological security needs over 'national' and 'international' demands for minerals • R&D into alternative construction material and alternatives to minerals that involve destructive mining • R&D into alternative, safer mining technologies • Organising and building capacity of communities to respond • Plantation of local species during restoration, with biodiversity enhancement and local community benefits as top priority • Consumer awareness to reduce demand for minerals not essential for basic needs, e.g. marble and diamonds
<p>Indicators of Progress Towards Goal</p>	

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Mr. Khaire, Katraj zoo and Mr. Khadse informed that these areas will be used to release animals rescued by the zoo and FD. The fauna would include birds (owls, kites, eagles etc), snakes and mammals (deer species, mongoose, hyena etc). Carrying capacity of these areas would be studied prior to release of animals.

Tekdi group mentioned that presently these areas face issue of heavy cattle grazing. Mr. Pardeshi instructed the PMC staff to identify such individuals and shift their stables to PMC designated areas. Strict actions should be taken in case of non-cooperation.

Ms. Menon, CEE raised point of public participation in these projects as they were under JFM. She expressed need to build a framework of such processes. The point was accepted by PMC. Mr. Khaire, PMC informed that presently local management committees are involved in activities at these areas, however the process would be formalized and strengthened as suggested by the CEE.

Mr. Pardeshi suggested that CEE be part of Greening Committee as an advisor. It was decided that Greening Committee would include Mr. Savarkar, Mr. Ashish kothari and Mr. E. Bharucha. This committee would identify local activists, resources and means to mobilize them.

Mr. Deshpande, CEE suggested that a comprehensive 'habitat mapping study' of Pune area be done through participatory process. Mr. Pardeshi agreed to support the activity financially. He suggested that the study should be done not only in PMC area but from Sinhgad to Maval-Mulshi. The green spots along with their habitats, ecological importance, threats and conservation measures should be studied.

Green Hills group mentioned that they needed more volunteers for watering and maintenance of plantations. For this, nearby PMC and private schools can be involved. Mr. Pardeshi directed the Education Department to hold personal meetings with all schools and make an activity calendar in consultation with the Green Hills group for this purpose. He directed Garden Department to help Green Hills group for protection of saplings from predators.

Mr. Pardeshi suggested that the group should visit Vetral and Bhamburda tekdi site for personal inspection and comments and all were welcome to join the group. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks.

Meeting with Mr. Yahwant Khaire on May 22, 2007

Me and Girija Godbole had a meeting with Mr. Y Khaire. He said the PMC will execute MoU with FD for biodiversity park and environment management activities at other sites. Baner project will be executed by PMC and Mangdewadi by FD (which will be a healthy competition he mentioned) Regarding habitat mapping study of these and Pune areas, he said that FD is already doing it, so we should contact Mr Rao to know more. Regarding 'local stakeholders' in hills, he said PMC meant everyday walkers and joggers. The people collecting firewood are not stakeholders. Because they are not completely

SECTOR: Planning (discussed in North-east and Western Regional Workshops)

<p>How Its Activities May Degrade Biodiversity (with specific examples at local, regional, state levels, providing appropriate data)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erosion of local planning and decision making institutions (politicisation, erosion of values, government take over), in turn leading to erosion of biodiversity • Erosion of biodiversity by ill-planned development projects or welfare schemes
<p>Historical / Root Causes for Nature of Activity (this would include aspects such as policies, attitudes, physical/demographic factors, centralisation of powers, lack of participation, etc.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inflexible, centralised, monolithic policies • Ignorance of, and inadequate valuation of the benefits of biodiversity • Lack of understanding and sensitivity towards biodiversity • Natural resource limits not respected, lack of ecological framework for planning • Predominant focus on material growth • Sectoral tunnel vision approach, and lack of coordination amongst sectors and departments of development • Lack of gender sensitivity • Individualistic approach, policies, with serious lack of community focus in schemes and subsidies • Top-down planning: little involvement of local communities and other citizens • Little integration of biodiversity priorities • Excessive thrust on development sectors other than land/natural resource base
<p>Policy/Strategies and Actions That May Help Conserve Biodiversity (note: these should be separated into broad, policy-level objectives or thrusts, and the specific actions needed to achieve these broad objectives)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building full value of biodiversity (economic, ecological, socio-cultural) into planning process • Guidelines to be issued for biodiversity integration into all development and welfare sectors • Guidelines for expenditure, planning to integrate biodiversity • All sectoral activities to do environmental auditing/ impact assessment • All development sectors to have a percentage of funds for biodiversity- to be spent on issues related to their sector • Awareness, education amongst planners; periodic refresher courses on biodiversity and related issues • Databank on biodiversity to be continuously updated, with planning board or commission • Biodiversity advisors in each department and in the planning board • Co-ordination between sectors/departments through statutory, institutionalised and participatory process • Economics/Statistical/Census department should update and show data on natural resources • Ecologically sensitive areas to be identified and made off limits to destructive developmental activities • Enforcement of laws relevant to biodiversity, through effective people's participation • Genuine community participation, with full information, in decision making • Mandatory public Hearings for all development projects • Institutional mechanism for biodiversity/environment at each district level- Environment committee as part of DPC • Full and legal right to information, total openness and accountability in governmental functioning • Periodic evaluation and monitoring of policies, schemes, programmes • Natural resource accounting • Planning over realistic time periods to enable full valuation of biodiversity and full public participation • R&D into, and promotion of, alternative models of development and conservation • Usage of various tools for planning- folk tools to space technology • Recognition of women's decision making powers and gender sensitivity • Recognition of common property- coastal, marine, pastures, forests • Legal and policy flexibility to enable the above steps and to facilitate site-specific measures
<p>Indicators of Progress Towards Goal</p>	

dependant on this wood for livelihood. Unlike dense forest areas, they have other employment opportunities in the city which they should explore. And unlike tribal people, they are not contributing anything for conservation/management of hills. These projects are not JFM or not sponsored by World Bank etc. They will funded by PMC.

Lastly, he said, PNP is not keen about 2 interpretation centres Dr. Bharucha mentioned. He would rather prefer students using that area for regular observations. PNP do not want any construction in these areas. I suggested moving panels and other media can be put over there and space be used by visiting students to record unique observations in interesting manner. Mr. Khaire said that this option can be explored..

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrating local agrobiodiversity into PDS/ CDS/ Balwadi • Incentives for food vs. non-food cash crops • Innovative management of Jhum zonation, technologies, agroforestry • Mixed or composite farming, with crops, fish, livestock, and trees • Emphasis on local food and nutrition security • Balance between HYV and indigenous varieties • EIA process to include analysis of impacts of projects on agricultural biodiversity • Legal measures for controlling agricultural pollution • Creation of organic consumer movement/markets, popularising organic and diverse food and agricultural produce through scientific studies, R&D, publicity, and incentives • Pricing support/financial subsidies for organic/biodiverse agricultural products • Rewards/social recognition for innovative farming practices related to biodiversity, • Support for fallow lands to enable soil recovery and regeneration of vegetation • National programme to promote organic farming, including specific schemes and support for storage of organic produce • Consumer information on seed packets • Training of extension workers/Krishi Vigyan Kendra orientation towards biodiverse agriculture • Small-scale enterprise support • Warning on hazardous products – pesticides, fertilizers • Cultivation of cane, orchids, bamboo, medicinal plants including domestication (subsistence, local needs should be priority) • Reviving, encouraging traditional food system, recipes, habits (through ecotourism, consciousness raising, links to nutrition and educational system) • Different approaches for different ecoregions/ethnic cultures • Food/biodiversity festivals and seed exchange fairs • Production calculations to take all biomass that is used. • Encouraging the use of biofertilizers, traditional composting, use of aquatic plants including weeds • Community based monitoring of projects and processes with an impact on agrobiodiversity • Documentation and publication of success stories • Possible demonstration sites to be identified in each state • Community based tourism linking to food diversity • Increased understanding of the loss of agrobiodiversity, and wild biodiversity on agricultural land
<p>Indicators of Progress Towards Goal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater consumer demand for organic, biodiverse food and agroproduce • Greater uptake of local, diverse produce • Greater stocking of local, diverse produce in PDS and other outlets • Drop in demand for chemical pesticides and fertilisers • Increase in demand for biofertilisers, biopesticides, and other organic farming inputs • Greater outflow of varieties from gene banks to farmers • Greater documentation of success stories • Fiscal, banking and other policy changes towards biodiverse farming • Increased demand for certification of organic produce

Greening in Pune PMC called meeting

Biodiversity Meeting Minutes – May 21, 2007

A meeting was called by the PMC on 21st May 2007 to discuss issues related to urban biodiversity. It was attended by following officers, NGOs and individuals:

1. Tree Officer, PMC
2. Development Engineer, PMC
3. Education Officer, PMC
4. A.C.F. and C.F., Forest Department,
5. Somesh Gite, Tekdi Group
6. Ravi Purandare +1, Green Hills Group
7. Sanskriti Menon, Laxmikant Deshpande, CEE
8. Mr. Khadse, DFO, FD
9. Mr. V L Rao, Consultant to PMC
10. Anchal Sondhi, Kalpavriksh
11. Mr. Savarkar,
12. Mr. E. Bharucha, BVIEER
13. Mr. Neelimkumar Khaire, Katraj Zoo
14. Mr. R R Pardeshi, Health Dept, PMC
15. Mr. Yashwant Khaire, Garden Dept, PMC
16. Mr. P N Pardeshi, Municipal Commissioner, PMC

The meeting had following agenda:

- 1) To manage forests under jurisdiction of PMC in partnership with the Forest Department:
 - a) Plantations at Bhamburda, Pachgaon Parvati and Varje
 - b) Research and management of proposed Biodiversity Parks, Zoo and forest areas
- 2) Development of Biodiversity Park in areas under PMC
- 3) Enhance involvement of citizens and institutions for above activities and
- 4) Site inspection of Bhamburda and Pachgaon Parvati

Mr. Khadse informed the participants about ongoing and proposed environment management activities at following sites – Bhamburda, Mangdewadi and Varje (500 hectares each). These activities include maintaining ecological balance, environment education, restoration of habitats, prevention of encroachment and plantations. The FD wants to undertake these projects under JFM in partnership with the PMC and they will be kept for approval from the proposed 'PMC Greening Committee'. In these areas, exotic species is an issue and these are being eliminated in phase wise manner. However, a timeline needs to be developed to achieve the goal and citizens need to be informed about problems related to exotic species as there are concerns being raised by the citizens forum about cutting of trees. Also these sites need urgent soil and water conservation measures for which PMC should provide funding. He suggested that these sites have unused quarries that can be used for water storage and other activities.

Mr. Pardeshi made following suggestions on above communication:

- a) To speed up water conservation activities to trap rainfall,
- b) The activities conducted by the Green Hills group to be monitored as a case study,

SECTOR: Tourism (discussed in Eastern/Central and Southern Regional Workshops)

<p>How Its Activities May Degrade Biodiversity (with specific examples at local, regional, state levels, providing appropriate data)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecosystem degradation by tourism infrastructure and ancillary activities • Habitat destruction/fragmentation/pollution • Disturbance caused by tourists, including noise pollution • Diversion of forest staff to cater to tourists, especially VIP tourists • Commodification and erosion of local cultures, including of indigenous knowledge on biodiversity • Illegal hunting by or under the guise of tourists • Oil spills • Wildlife disturbance, leading to impacts such as changes in animal behaviour • Over-exploitation of species (corals, ornamental plants)
<p>Historical / Root Causes for Nature of Activity (this would include aspects such as policies, attitudes, physical/demographic factors, centralisation of powers, lack of participation, etc.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changing preferences of tourists, including greater demand for roads, vehicles, and infrastructure • Economic policies and subsidies favouring tourism over other land/water uses that lead to conservation • Lack of community control, local community participation and benefit sharing • Lack of awareness/ concern in tourists and tourist operators • VIP tourism as a special problem • Concentration on a few areas • Promotion of areas without any ecological safeguards being in place • Pilgrimage changes towards intensive, infrastructure-dominated visitation, excessive numbers at certain sites • Lack of enforcement of environmental safeguards • Lack of monitoring of impacts
<p>Policy/Strategies and Actions That May Help Conserve Biodiversity (these should be separated into broad, policy-level objectives or thrusts, and the specific actions needed to achieve these broad objectives)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fixing of carrying capacity of each area for tourism • Tourism policy to incorporate biodiversity consideration as a central prerequisite • Tourism Policy changes, including mandatory EIA for tourism infrastructure and projects, community involvement, no tourism sites/ zones including some ecologically fragile and sacred sites, and ecologically and culturally sensitive siting policy • Impact assessment of ongoing tourism • Attitude survey amongst tourists and tour operators • Comprehensive tourism planning with ecological/cultural sensitivity • Publicising negative impacts with case studies • Capacity building of local communities to manage tourists, act as guides, and set up interpretation centres • Interpretation/ education / sensitization of tourists, pre-tour, during visit, and post-tour • Promoting tourism for agrobiodiversity, and for conservation • Charging ecological tax/fees, repatriating back to ecosystem and to local people • Community controlled and managed tourism which is ecologically balanced and locally equitable, with special focus on locally disadvantaged groups • Mandatory Code of conduct for tourists/ industry • Conservation and local livelihoods to always have a higher priority than tourism • Developing a monitoring protocol for tourism activities • Sensitisation of forest officials to genuine ecotourism potential for conservation, as a support constituency, and for employment, local livelihoods, monitoring, and revenue • Promoting low-impact tourism, including trekking • Integration biodiversity and local community rights into tourism curricula • Special tourism codes for sacred and culturally sensitive sites
<p>Indicators of Progress Towards Goal</p>	