

## **Community based ecological mangrove restoration in Palk Bay**

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### **Abstract**

OMCAR Foundation has initiated the ecological mangrove restoration project in southeast coast of India. The project area is located in Agni Estuary. Village leaders, women self help groups and youth groups were organized by OMCAR through village level meetings and awareness programmes. 15 acres of degraded mangroves were selected in the Agni estuary region for mangrove restoration.

The poster explains the time laps photographs of growth of mangroves and how the village women self help groups are involved in the project by backyard nursery and additional livelihood arrangements. The school students were brought to mangrove forest area for mangrove ecology field trips, after which they were involved in mangrove field research data collection, tagging and village awareness programmes.

The project also provide solutions for mangrove fisher families to utilize the solar cookers instead mangrove fuel wood, and ecofriendly paddle pump and toilets to save electricity and ground water quality. A GIS map of mangroves and land use pattern was developed for the mangrove village that help the fisherfolks to understand the importance of mangroves against natural disasters and how to protect it through participatory village development scheme by local government.

The poster briefly represents the successful achievements of the Mangrove restoration project and its impacts on local society.

### **Keywords**

OMCAR, ecological mangrove restoration, growth, livelihood, fisherfolk