



## WHAT WAS YOUR BEST CEPA INTERVENTION IN THIS TRIENNIUM?

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### Your Position/Role and Country:

Executive Secretary of the Resources Centre for Sustainable Development, India

### Title of your CEPA activity/product

Workshop on Biodiversity Conservation in an Inland Wetland

### Other collaborators – please identify other organizations that assisted you or were your partners

Partners: Assam Science Society & Chanuabori Secondary School, Assam, India

### Key stakeholder group(s) targeted by your product/activity (e.g. decision-makers, teachers, families, journalists etc.)

We targeted two key stakeholder groups: students and teachers from the local secondary schools and young people from the local village Chanuabori.

### When did this event take place/when was your product launched?

During World Environment Day celebrations on 5th of June 2013.

## What was your key message?

Conservation of Inland Wetlands can only be achieved through information, awareness and education for all.

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## Brief description of your product/ activity / material you used

The activity consisted of brief lectures to involve, motivate and educate young people on the conservation and wise use of inland wetlands and improve their understanding of wetland ecosystem services in the local area. Participating students prepared posters on the wise use and benefits of a wetland and the impacts of human activities on natural wetlands.

A workshop-cum-awareness campaign was organized to demonstrate to teachers that students can help promote conservation awareness through school initiatives, and that this can lead towards achieving sustainable development, wise use of wetland ecosystems and improved food security.

### What was your intended outcome from this product/ activity? (e.g. change in behaviour of target group; volunteer help with a wetland project; newspaper article)

Increased knowledge about the importance of the local natural wetland and its value for people which needs to be cared for by everyone.

Behavioural change with regard to wise use of wetlands, as well as delivery of information among the school students, school teachers and the local community.

### What kind of impact did this activity/product have on the target audience?

The positive impact is that people in the community and schools have a clear awareness now of the value and conservation and wise use of wetlands. Youth and school students are involved in wetland activities. Schools are willing to continue to have this kind of workshop in the future as well. Students are proud of their art work. Teachers enjoyed the cooperation with the students.

### Is there a follow-up activity/product planned, if yes briefly describe

More awareness workshops involving a large number of schools will be organized in this area during the coming years.

Follow-up is provided through communication tools such as Facebook; <http://goo.gl/TY8S3>, and Youtube; <http://www.youtube.com/user/rcsdin>.

### Why do you identify this as your best CEPA intervention? What makes it stand out?

This intervention was part of a larger project to strengthen indigenous peoples' response to multiple-use water services in villages near floodplain wetlands in the area. This was implemented in partnership with local institutions and supported by a national foundation with the benefits accruing to the local community. The project also used a multidisciplinary approach to involve local institutions, farmers and to generate a pleasant atmosphere and encourage team spirit.

In the above context this CEPA intervention stands out because of the active participation of school students & teachers in bringing out the local understanding of wise use of wetlands and its value in a competitive way through poster presentations. This was unique and effective and can be continued targeting more schools over a larger area.

YouTube video link of student poster presentations:  
<http://youtu.be/JNjBe8wdrwc>

### What was the source of your funding?

Resources Centre for Sustainable Development, & Assam science Society (ASS), Assam, India.



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