

EVENT REPORT

Title of the Event: Living Seas, Living Knowledge: Coastal Communities and Marine Sustainability		
Committee/ Department Name: Centre for Achieving Sustainable Climate Action, Development and Engagement (CASCADE), Somaiya Institute for Research & Consultancy (SIRAC)	Date of Report (DD/MM/YYYY) 16/10/2025	
Date of Event : (DD/MM/YYYY) 04/10/2025 - 05/10/2025	Venue of event: Somaiya Vidyavihar University and Field Immersion at Versova Beach, Mumbai	Time of event : Day 1- 9:30 AM TO 5:00 PM Day 2- 8:00 AM TO 5:00 PM
Type of the Event	Workshop	
Level of Organization	Local	
Collaborators if any	-	
Mode (Online / Offline)	Offline	
Name of the Resource Person / Guest	Dr. Roshni Kutty	
Brief profile of the resource person	She is a member of Kalpavriksh Environment Action Group and Co-ordinator of ICCA-South Asia Marine Program. She is a researcher, passionate conservationist and advocate working at the intersection of biodiversity conservation, democratic and decentralised governance, and environmental justice.	
Objective of the Event	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop and apply practical field research skills, including questionnaire design, community interviewing techniques, and collaborative data analysis, within a real-world coastal environment. 2. Analyze the intricate interrelationship between the livelihoods of coastal communities, particularly the Koli fishing community, and the overall health of the marine ecosystem. 3. Synthesize field observations and community insights into tangible outputs, including a formal research note and creative 	



	materials (such as reels or snippets) for effective science communication.
<p>Report (Not more than 500 words)</p>	<p>An immersive two-day workshop, "Living Seas, Living Knowledge," was successfully held as part of the Somaiya Sustainability Dialogue's Prakriti Samvāda series. The event brought together an engaged group of participants to explore the research-based methods for the coastal marine ecosystems in Mumbai.</p> <p>Day one, hosted at the Somaiya Vidyavihar University campus, set the foundation for the workshop. Dr. Roshni Kutty introduced core concepts of human-nature interactions, discussing both anthropocentric and ecocentric viewpoints. Participants were equipped with a robust research toolkit, learning the principles of designing questionnaires, conducting semi-structured interviews, and utilizing personal meaning maps to capture community perspectives. The afternoon was dedicated to preparing for the next day's fieldwork, with teams formed and their research questions and objectives finalized.</p> <p>On the second day, the workshop moved to the vibrant coastal landscape of Versova Beach for an immersive field session that served as a real-world laboratory. Participants engaged directly with the local fishing community, putting their newly acquired research skills into practice.</p> <p>The students received a comprehensive understanding of community life from Mrs. Rajshree Bhanjee, head of the Mahila Koli Sanstha, who introduced them to the daily practices of fishermen and women. Participants gained firsthand insights into the community's deep-rooted connections to the sea by observing local fish varieties, different fishing nets, and traditional fish drying practices. To provide deeper cultural and historical context, Mr. Mohit Ramle, a spokesperson on Koli history, art, and culture, spoke about the evolution from traditional to modern methods. Further engagement was facilitated by Mr. Pankaj Kaskar, a Koli Fisherman and Member of the Vesava Koli Sahakari Sarvodaya Society Ltd., who, along with other members, answered student questions related to their study. The field session concluded with a token of appreciation for the community members. This hands-on experience of "research by doing" was a highlight for many, transforming abstract concepts into tangible understanding.</p> <p>The workshop concluded back on campus with a final session focused on compiling and analyzing the collected data. Participants engaged in reflective discussions, sharing their observations and</p>



	collaboratively interpreting their findings. The event successfully achieved its objective of building a deeper, more nuanced understanding of coastal sustainability, empowering attendees with the skills to conduct community-centric research and communicate their findings.	
Number of beneficiaries	Students UG: 8 Teaching: 1 Non-teaching: 3	Students PG: 0
Expected Outcome	<p>1. Research by Doing : Discover what it takes to be a researcher—observing interconnected systems, nurturing curiosity for change, and building communication skills for community-centric design and research.</p> <p>2. Human–Nature Lens: Understand the deep connections between coastal communities, their livelihoods, and marine ecosystem health through community engagement.</p> <p>3. Research Tool Kit: Build and apply skills in questionnaire design, interviewing, and collaborative analysis.</p> <p>Deliverables</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a short research note • Create reels/snippets/cartoons for science communication 	

<p> Photos (Attach at least three geotagged photos)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Person engaging the session • Snapshot of the ongoing session • Group photo or closing session <p>(For multiple days/sessions – attach photos day-wise/session-wise)</p>	<p>Day 1</p>  <p>Mumbai, Maharashtra, India 3vfx+wc7, Vidyanagar, Vidyavihar East, Ghatkopar East, Mumbai, Maharashtra 400077, India Lat 19.075162° Long 72.898359° 04/10/2025 11:17 AM GMT +05:30</p>
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Day 2

