



University : Sri Sri University

Country : India

Web Address: www.srisriuniversity.edu.in

SDG14: LIFE BELOW WATER

14.2 Supporting aquatic ecosystems through education

14.2.3 Overfishing (community outreach)

Offer educational outreach activities for local or national communities to raise awareness about overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices

Description

In the dynamic landscape of coastal sustainability, the involvement of Sri Sri University's Environmental Science students in the National Conference on Sustainable Coastal Management in Bhubaneshwar, Odisha, in September 2022 stands as a pivotal and commendable initiative. This introduction serves as a gateway to an exploration of their active participation, which bridged diverse stakeholders, including policymakers, government bodies, research organizations, and experts. The conference was a forum for discussions encompassing pressing topics such as the impact of climate change on coastal regions, marine biodiversity preservation, and the adoption of ecosystem-based strategies for adaptation. The overarching aim of these deliberations was to fortify the resilience of coastal communities and facilitate the exchange of knowledge across all 13 coastal states in India.

Moreover, the introduction illuminates Sri Sri University's enduring commitment to environmental awareness. The university actively encourages its students to engage with local fishing communities, fostering an understanding of the advantages of sustainable fishing practices. Simultaneously, the institution is deeply involved in outreach activities designed to educate these fishing communities about the perils of overfishing, unregulated fishing practices, and the importance of adhering to mesh size regulations. This collective effort seeks to champion sustainable fishing practices within the community, safeguarding the long-term well-being of the ecosystem.





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Additionally, the introduction highlights students' proactive interactions with local fishermen and fish vendors in nearby markets. Through surveys and engaging discussions, students gain firsthand insights into the challenges confronting these communities, encompassing not only ecological concerns but also the livelihood-related issues they face. The intricate tapestry of Sri Sri University's engagement in coastal sustainability, as detailed in this introduction, underscores its commitment to creating a lasting impact in the realm of environmental conservation and community involvement.





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Plate 1. Students are participating in National Conference on Sustainable Coastal Management in Bhubaneshwar, Odisha organized by UNEP.





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Plate 2 & 3. Students are interacting and collecting samples of fish from the local; fish market