

## Director's Message



**Fr Rubin Mathew sdb**  
Executive Director, BREADS

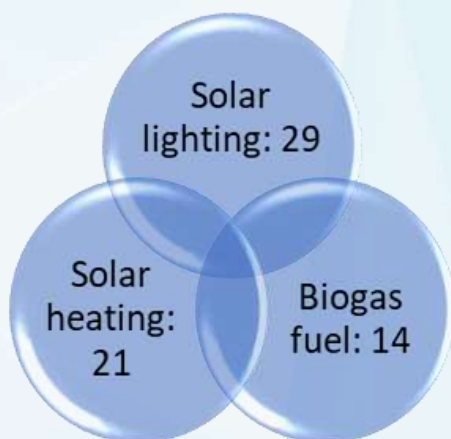
Human-induced climate change is causing dangerous and widespread disruption in Nature, drastically affecting our lives, despite efforts to reduce the risks. People and ecosystems least able to cope are being hardest hit, said scientists in the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change \(IPCC\) 2022](#).

In this Season of Creation (1 Sept - 4 Oct) observed all over the world, we pause to reflect on the vital, relevant issues of how we care for our environment, to examine the impact of our lives and choices on our Earth. As the province planning and developmental organisation (PDO) that works across social and educational dimensions with children, youth, communities, and other organisations; BREADS is conscious of its responsibility to integrate its developmental interventions with an ecologically-friendly perspective. This Slice brings you a glimpse of BREADS' ongoing efforts towards inclusive sustainable development.



## Clean Energy

More than half the world lives in cities, likely to be 68% by 2050; and cities contribute around 70% of the carbon emissions. The unsustainable use of resources has triggered critical scarcities, caused climate change and widespread environmental degradation – all of which have negative impact on



the well-being of the planet and its people. We need to power our cities by generating clean, resource-efficient energy and move away from fossil fuels as much as possible. BREADS contributes in this area by promoting the use of alternative fuel sources and energy-efficient equipment.

## WE-AUTOS: Driving Change

Twenty-two of the world's 30 most polluted cities are in India, with Delhi ranked as the most polluted capital city globally. To tackle air pollution, the government aims for 100% electrification of autorickshaws by 2030. Just 30% conversion to electric autorickshaws by 2030 would result in 7% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions.

The BREADS' WE-AUTO project that annually supports **90** women from Kollam's fishing communities, to drive and own electric autorickshaws, combines many sustainable development goals—sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11), clean and affordable energy (SDG 7), decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), gender equality

(SDG 5), contributing to good health and well-being (SDG 3) and no poverty (SDG 1).



## Water Conservation

Water is vital to life on the planet. One in nine people around the world, does not have access to clean water close to home. Despite improvements, India still tops that list of countries (if listed by population). BREADS' water conservation efforts include promoting of rainwater harvesting, creating ponds



and other means for water catchment, protecting and replenishing ground water, and improving water management in general. We have implemented **38** projects over the past years in different Don Bosco institutions in Karnataka and Kerala.

## Sustainable Livelihoods

BREADS' Women Empowerment through Livelihood and Entrepreneurship (WELivE) programme creates diversified income sources linked to food security. WELivE empowers **2200** rural women across Karnataka and Kerala to convert their usually unpaid household labour into profitable ventures. These sustainable livelihood ventures such as organic farming (500 gardens), livestock and poultry rearing, small fisheries and related small-scale entrepreneurial ventures keep people connected to their land and actively involved in the protection of their localities through the use of environmentally-sustainable methods of farming and animal husbandry.





## Centres to Promote Organic Farming

Farms have been established at Don Bosco Hassan and Don Bosco Kalaburagi, as demonstration centres to train local farmers, women from self-help groups, youth, students and other interested people, in organic farming practices. In these centres, compost production (vermicompost, vermishash, bio-manure), animal husbandry, water management systems (rainwater harvesting, drip irrigation) and multi-cropping organic cultivation of more than 14 types of crops, vegetables and fruits, especially varieties of Moringa, are carried out.



These Centres for Demonstration, Training and Knowledge Management on Moringa cultivation and organic farming (CDTKM) are live laboratories for local farmers to understand and experiment with: better soil utilisation, improved crop yield/ per unit of land, decreased cost of inputs, reduced pests and disease attacks.

The two centres have trained **1939** farmers and students in the past year, thereby promoting sustainable agricultural practices among local farmers. While cultivation has just begun in the Kalaburagi centre, the Hassan centre, which started in 2017, produced 11.6 tonnes of paddy this year, harvested 700 kgs of turmeric and 500 kgs of ginger. It also produced 25 kgs of Moringa powder from its new processing unit.



## ECO Clubs

Catch them young! In 2019, BREADS started the Educate to Cultivate Organically (ECO) club movement in selected government schools in 10 districts of Karnataka. With the goal to nurture a new generation of farmers, each club had 50 student members with the aptitude, attitude, and readiness to participate in such activities. With the approval of the Block Education Officer, **74** vegetable gardens were created in selected schools for training purposes and to supplement their mid-day meals. Children learned about organic farming, bio-manure preparation, vermicomposting, seed processing, local vegetable varieties, water conservation, and waste management. The **113** ECO clubs became a platform for **5696** children to learn as well as campaign, for environmental protection, sustainable agriculture, and organic farming; ensuring that they develop a connection with Nature and understand the ecological implications of lifestyle choices. BREADS developed a handbook about the formation, functioning and strengthening of the ECO Clubs.



## Awareness Campaigns

BREADS' partners regularly conduct neighbourhood clean-up drives, rallies, and celebrations to generate public awareness about the environment on significant days.

## Environment Policy & Resolutions

As an ecologically-concerned organisation, BREADS developed and implemented an environment policy for its functioning, which addresses the management of energy, water, resources, waste, transport, procurement, maintenance, and the promotion of green campus spaces wherever possible (<https://breadsbangalore.org/environmental-policies>). BREADS also created and follows its climate resolutions.

**BREADS BANGALORE**

**WE ARE CLIMATE CHAMPIONS**

- 1. WE SAVE WATER**  
Of the 75% of the water on earth, only 1% is fresh water. And only 0.02% is available for humans. Turn off the water tap while brushing or shaving. Put a note on the mirror to remind you. Take the weighty you need in hand and use 5-minute showers.
- 2. WE AVOID PLASTIC AND ECO-UNFRIENDLY MATERIALS**  
In India, 80% of the total plastic consumption is discarded as waste. Use reusable cloth bags. Avoid aluminum foil, thermos and styrofoam. Recycle thermos, plastic bags, containers, and water bottles.
- 3. WE AVOID CREATING GARBAGE**  
India generates 1,00,000 metric tonnes of waste per day. Stop creating garbage. Stop using disposable paper plates, packages. Avoid packaged items-water, juices, food, snacks, etc.
- 4. WE DO NOT WASTE FOOD**  
25,000 metric tons of non-vegetable garbage are produced globally every day. 50% of food produced is thrown in wastebins. Take what you can eat, eat what you take.
- 5. WE USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT**  
75% of carbon emissions are emitted come from automobiles. Try walking or cycling for shorter distances. It is healthy and an optimal benefit to you.
- 6. WE SWITCH OFF THE LIGHTS WHEN NOT IN USE**  
Switch off lights and fans when not needed. Open windows and use natural light and breeze as much as possible.
- 7. WE REFUSE, REDUCE, RECYCLE, REUSE**  
Reduce consumption-consume only what you need. Buy reusable instead of disposable items. For example, glass or steel plates over single-use paper or plastic ones. Before it goes to the recycling bin, use and dry waste to enable efficient recycling.
- 8. WE UNPLUG DEVICES WHEN NOT IN USE**  
Up to 10% of electricity consumed in homes is used by electrical appliances in standby mode. Check for standby mode and unplug to the equivalent of 20 large power plants worth of electricity each year.
- 9. WE REDUCE PAPER USAGE**  
It might be impossible for institutions to completely not purchase of paper, but go digital whenever possible to cut down on paper consumption. Try to ensure that all the paper used is recycled and if possible, procured from sustainable sources.
- 10. WE PLANT A TREE ON SPECIAL OCCASIONS**  
We need 100 trees per person on earth to compensate global carbon emissions. Plant a tree to mark birthdays, anniversaries or important days of the calendar.

**BREADS**  
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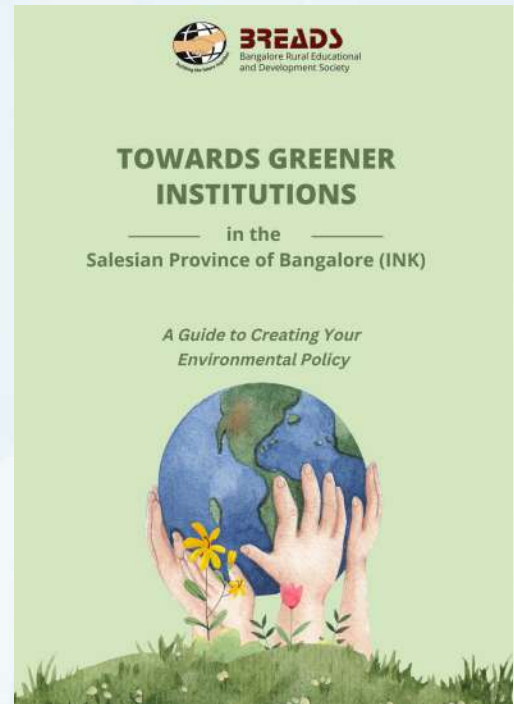
**BANGALORE RURAL EDUCATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY (BREADS)**

**ENVIRONMENT POLICY**

2019

## Partnering on Climate Action

BREADS is a member of the Don Bosco Green Alliance, an international movement of people from the Salesian Family institutions, who contribute to global environmental action, thought and policy. As the PDO, BREADS encourages and supports its partners across Karnataka and Kerala to create their own environment policies, with a set of guidelines developed based on current best practices and recommendations of respected institutions such as the NCERT (<https://breadsbangalore.org/environmental-policies>).



**We work towards a greener future, for their sakes and ours!**

## Calendar

### August 2022

- Monitoring and evaluation of BREADS' projects
- Independence Day celebrations in DB houses

### September 2022

- Teacher's Day celebrations in DB houses
- Visits by BREADS' funding partners
- Monitoring and evaluation of BREADS' projects

## BREADS NEWS



### **Child Rights Workshop for Teachers and Students in Vijayanagara**

A workshop for the students and teachers was organised on 10 August 2022 at Government Higher Primary School (GHPS), Halebommanahalli, HB Halli taluk of Vijayanagara district, by Don Bosco Hospet...[more...](#)



### **It's a New Beginning! with WELive Kannur**

Fourteen women, who are part of the Women Empowerment through Livelihood and Entrepreneurship (WELive) project under BREADS, were happy to start their own enterprises in their native place, Angadikadavu...[more...](#)



### **Dry Fish and Women's Empowerment!**

Five women, Ms. Jessy Kunjumon, Ms. Philomina Josey, Ms. Sumi Santhony, Ms. Annamma Chacko, and Ms. Ancily Yesudas, beneficiaries of the Women Empowerment through Livelihood and Entrepreneurship (WELive) project...[more...](#)



### **WE-AUTO Fourth Phase Inauguration & Distribution**

The fourth phase of the BREADS' WE-AUTO project, which provides electric autos to the fisherwomen belonging to the Kollam area, was inaugurated on 26 August 2022 by...[more...](#)