

## Elephanta Clean Up



Our nation is endowed with breathtaking natural beauty, from pristine coastlines to lush forests. It is our collective responsibility to safeguard these treasures by promoting eco-friendly tourism, minimizing waste, and preserving wildlife habitats. Leading this initiative, Ek Saath organized a cleanup of the Elephanta Caves while engaging in discussions about the importance of avoiding plastic and littering with local residents.

Amidst the juxtaposition of beauty and debris, Ek Saath remains steadfast in its commitment to restoration. The Ek Saath Foundation and Nude Food Cafe, in collaboration with the dedicated team from Young Creative Production, IIM Mumbai, and NHDCSA students, rolled up their sleeves and collected an astounding 525 kgs of waste, now ready for a recycling revolution.

However, this is just the beginning. Our vision is to work towards a long-term plan for Elephanta Island that promotes sustainable tourism while protecting its centuries-old caves. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to India Tourism, Mumbai and Maharashtra Tourism Officials for their incredible support, with special recognition for the Carter Cleanup Crew!



## 'Swachh Kokari, Sundar Kokari' Project



In partnership with Young Creative Production and BMC F-North ward, 'Swachh Kokari, Sundar Kokari' is dedicated to turning the Kokari slum community in Wadala into a zero-waste settlement. Our focus is on waste management and preventing plastic pollution from entering the ocean, aiming to improve both, the environment and the community's quality of life.

## International Coastal Cleanup Day

On 16th September we celebrated International Coastal Clean-Up Day with the participation of more than 200 volunteers who arrived early in the morning, fully equipped with gloves, trash bags, and an unwavering commitment to the cause. Their enthusiasm quickly spread as they scattered along the coastline, eager to contribute and remove a significant amount of trash. Together, their relentless efforts led to the impressive removal of 1250 kilograms of marine waste.



## Tree Plantation (Colaba Woods)



Ek Saath - The Earth Foundation, in collaboration with Aveda India and Emerald Sustainable Foundation, embarked on a Tree Plantation Drive in Colaba Woods employing the Miyawaki Tree Plantation Method. As we near the end of the monsoon we are delighted to share the progress. The green cover of the area has significantly increased over a short period. Let's delve into the details of this initiative on a further page, where we will provide a comprehensive account of our progress and achievements.

# Ek Saath x Carter Clean Up

COMMUNITY UNITES FOR COASTAL CLEANUP : A COLLECTIVE EFFORT FOR A HEALTHIER SHORELINE

The sun was shining, the waves gently lapped the shore, and the community came together for a common cause – to clean up and protect our cherished coastline. On International Coastal Cleanup Day, a remarkable display of dedication to environmental stewardship was witnessed.

International Coastal Cleanup Day brought together residents, students, environmental groups, and businesses at Carter Road. Volunteers of all ages, armed with gloves and trash bags, displayed unwavering dedication. Their collective efforts, involving 400 volunteers, removed an impressive 1250 kilograms of marine waste, thanks to Connectfor's thoughtful coordination. The event showcased a diverse commitment to a sustainable future, with participants ranging from parents to children.

In a world where the health of our oceans and coastlines is increasingly threatened, the success of International Coastal Cleanup Day at Carter Road is a heartening reminder that positive change is possible when communities unite for a common goal. We extend our appreciation to Arya Group Foundation for being on board to support Ek Saath in the Carter Cleanup Initiative. Also we are glad to welcome the KLM Royal Dutch Airlines as our Supporter in this environmental journey.

Our coastline is more than just recreation; it's a vital ecosystem that deserves our care and protection. Today, with 300+ volunteers Carter Cleanup exemplifies the strength of collective action in safeguarding our natural treasures and ensuring a cleaner, healthier shoreline for generations.



# Ek Saath x Carter Clean Up

## Corporate Engagement

We have expanded our reach through collaborations with esteemed organizations such as Capgemini, All Cargo Logistics and Printstop establishing valuable corporate partnerships that align with and advance our mission of promoting environmental sustainability.



## Volunteer Engagement

We have broadened our impact by collaborating with esteemed institutions such as Samvedana NMIMS College, UPG College, Connectfor, The XYZ Foundation, 71st East Bombay and Angel Express establishing meaningful volunteer partnerships that uphold and advance our commitment to promote environmental sustainability.



# Ek Saath x Young Creative Production

## Independence Day Celebration



15th August, 2023 marked India's 77th Independence Day. Ek Saath celebrated this historic day by educating students, the future of the nation, regarding waste management and disposal. Partnering with Young Creative Production, we held a special event at the Priya Darshini Vidya Mandir, Wadala.

The event was marked with several engaging activities. Apart from flag hoisting, students were entertained with a street play aimed at inducing awareness regarding responsible waste management. Ek Saath aims to continue to inspire students to become environmentally conscious individuals, capable of making a positive impact on their communities, and the world at large.

This initiative was a part of our 'Swachh Kokari, Sundar Kokari' project in collaboration with BMC F - North ward to transform the Kokari slum community in Wadala into a zero-waste settlement. This project caters to the betterment of the quality of life and surrounding environmental conditions of over 20,000 residents.



# Ek Saath x BookASmile



Ek Saath - The Earth Foundation is elated to announce its collaboration with BookASmile, a BookMyShow charity initiative. This partnership is dedicated to maximise efforts for a sustainable future and zero-waste living.

We have an overwhelming participation of over 300 volunteers at our clean-ups and other initiatives. As a token of appreciation and recognition, we nominate 2 exceptional volunteers every Monday as “#BookASmileECOBuddies of the week.” These volunteers will have volunteered with us for at least a month. Them and their buddy can attend a special movie screening organised by us!

This initiative that was started on the occasion of World Environment Day 2023, has now successfully conducted 3 movie screenings with over 200 ecobuddies. This collaboration enables us to reward our dedicated volunteers with a memorable experience.



# Ek Saath Foundation X Healing Himalayas



During the scorching summer months in the northern region, the Sustaining Paradise initiative, in collaboration with Ek Saath Foundation and Healing Himalayas Material Recovery Facility located in Rakcham, Kinnaur, achieved a remarkable feat. Together, we diverted a significant 6 tonnes of dry waste from being burned or dumped into our precious rivers by redirecting it to a recycling facility.

The process of collecting and sorting this waste in Rakchham village, Kinnaur, has yielded around 10 tonnes of recyclable, non-biodegradable materials. These materials are now undergoing further processing to prepare them for recycling, contributing to the reduction of environmental pollution. As part of our commitment to improving the efficiency of waste collection and the overall impact of our cause, we have acquired a dedicated collection vehicle for door-to-door pickups. This addition has significantly enhanced our collection process, allowing us to reach more households effectively.

The success of our Material Recovery Facility (MRF) also hinges on the active participation of the local Panchayat, and we are proud to report that we have achieved 100% cooperation from the Rakcham Panchayat.

Here is a breakdown of the total bales collected:

PET: 290

Cardboard: 360

MLP (Multi-Layer Plastic): 220

Clear Plastic: 80

Tetra Pack: 130

In total, we have successfully diverted approximately 6 tonnes of waste from harmful disposal methods, making a total of 1080 bales.

Our collective efforts and the support of the Rakcham community and Panchayat have been instrumental in this achievement. We are committed to continuing our mission of preserving the natural beauty and ecological balance of this region through sustainable waste management practices.

# Tree Plantation Drive (Colaba)

## PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT



Ek Saath - The Earth Foundation collaborated with Aveda India and Emerald Sustainable Foundation for a Tree Plantation Drive in Colaba Woods. Six months later, as we near the end of the monsoon, we are delighted to announce positive developments.

The Miyawaki Tree Plantation Method was utilised wherein several native trees are planted close together in a small area. Over 300 saplings were planted in this drive.

The green cover of the area has significantly increased over a short period. This has not only provided diverse habitats to the local wildlife but also contributed towards the regulation of local temperatures and aesthetics. We hope this urban green space continues to thrive!

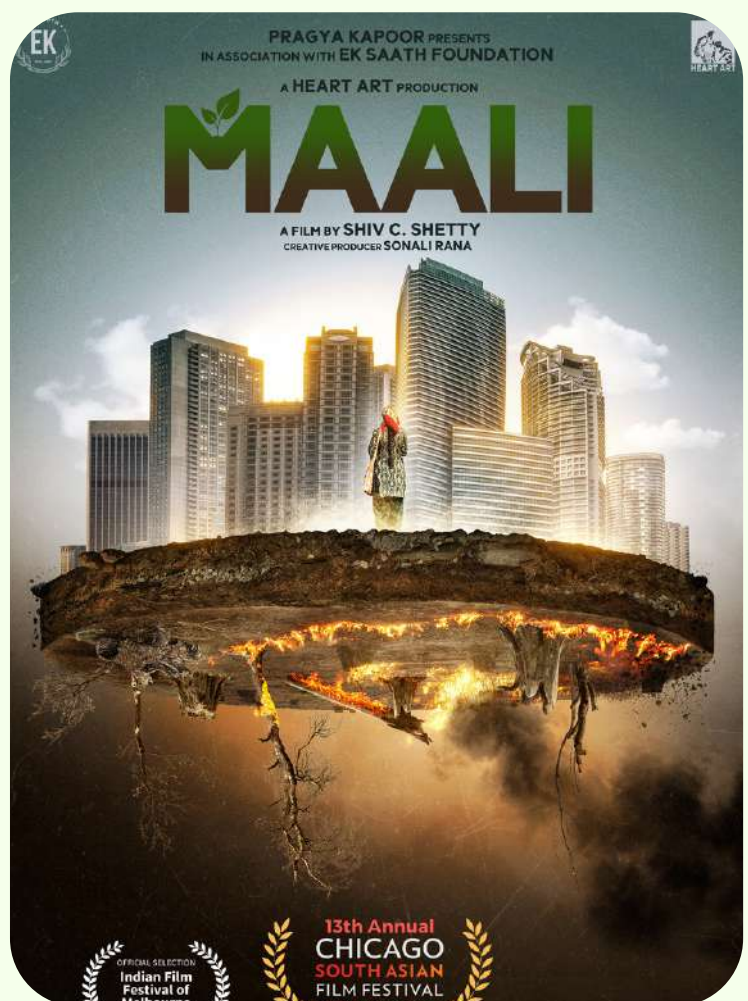
# Maali

Pragya Kapoor's film 'Maali' continues to bag honours recognitions, making Ek Saath beam with pride.

'Maali' brings to life the global conversation about the most relevant issues: **Deforestation** and **Mental Health**. It depicts the journey of a young 16-year-old Tulsi as she makes her way from a peaceful countryside to a concrete jungle. Along her journey, she is faced by the harsh realities of the urban lifestyle: greed, depression, and loneliness.

Film has also been selected for the Chicago South Asian Film Festival. Moreover, it made its Canadian debut at the prestigious Vancouver Asian Film Festival in the month of September, 2023.

'Maali's well-deserved fame sheds light on an issue we continue to fight against. We hope for nothing but more success its way!





# Collaborations

## EK SAATH X KHEONI

With great pleasure, Ek Saath - The Earth Foundation announces its collaboration with Kheoni, a sustainable brand that redefines skincare and wellness products. Their products are thoughtfully curated and packaged using sustainable, organic, and inclusive materials. The quality and integrity of Kheoni products align with our commitment towards a greener world. Through this partnership, we aim to promote responsible and mindful luxury.



### Products Manufacturing Process

Specialize in gathering a diverse range of thoughtfully curated sustainable, organic, and inclusive products from various regions across the country. Our approach to sourcing these products is deeply rooted in principles of inclusive community development, ongoing support, and fair trade pricing. The creators of these valuable ancestral traditions craft the products using entirely natural and organic methods.

For instance, our teas are sourced from local villagers' backyards in Assam and Himalayan regions, cultivated in small batches. We oppose the large-scale tea estate production that often comes at the expense of forests.

#TeamEkSaath



It takes a village to raise a child, and it takes a forest to support a village. And one such small forest in central India, Kheoni, was our source of inspiration. The journey started by supporting a tribal community to prevent forest fires.

We also took it upon ourselves to afforest a piece of a barren hill, Keshar Parvat (biodiversity awarded site now) which involved planting 35k trees and procuring water for the last 7 years. To sustain this site and several such movements across India, Kheoni was born. The idea was to bring the natural way of wellness from such forests and inclusive communities across India in the form of NEVER-BEFORE skin care products and superfoods while supporting the forest. The most pristine and wellness-promoting ingredients are gathered from nature, and packaged in eco-friendly materials by self-help groups to bring together the Kheoni collection.

#TeamEkSaath

Kheoni born out of a need to support a forest, redefine responsible luxury, and bring the most sustainable wellness and skincare products into your daily life.

• "Probiotic Skincare" Naturally rejuvenate your skin's microbiome while benefiting the environment during every wash.

• The Sleep Program™ has a range of handcrafted aromatic and therapeutic eye pillows.



# News

## HEATWAVES AND HIGH TEMPERATURES THREATEN THE LIVES OF YOUNG CHILDREN IN SOUTH ASIA

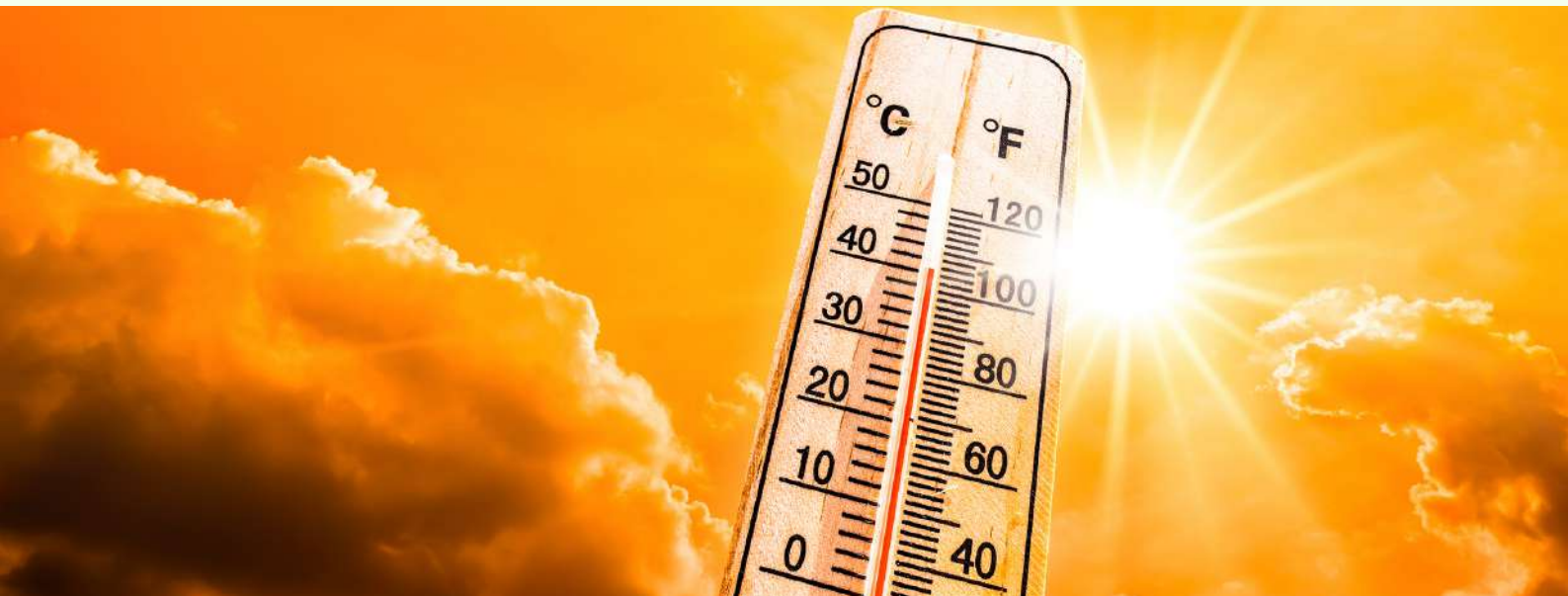
July 2023 was recorded as the world's hottest month by far. The high temperatures and heat waves that accompanied this historic mark were undoubtedly caused by climate change. Asia, Africa, and South America each had their warmest July on record.

UNICEF estimates that 76 per cent of children under 18 in South Asia – 460 million – are exposed to extreme high temperatures and fatal heat waves. This heat can intensify problems for kids even during the rainy season. This is because children cannot adjust quickly to temperature fluctuations that accompany the transition from summer to monsoon. Thus, they cannot expel extra heat from their bodies.

This retention of heat in children can cause grave side effects such as organ failure, neurological dysfunction, dehydration, fainting and coma, in young children; poor mental development in infants.

Unless we act now, these children will continue to bear the brunt of more frequent and more severe heat waves in the coming years, for no fault of theirs.

We, at Ek Saath, recognise the importance of protecting the environment for the benefit of future generations as well as making the adults of the future aware of the circumstances they are living in. Our regular clean-ups at various locations, from beaches to tourist attractions, as well as eco-shiksha events embody our contribution to making the world a better place to live in.



TO KNOW MORE ABOUT

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