









EK SAATH: THE EARTH FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT

MARCH 2020 - FEBRUARY 2021

CONTENTS

-  Founder's note
-  Ek Saath: The Earth Foundation
-  Team Ek Saath
-  Ek Saath Goals
-  Projects and Strategies
 - Healing Himalayas
 - Back to the roots
 - Covid Relief Project
 - Zero waste film
-  Way forward

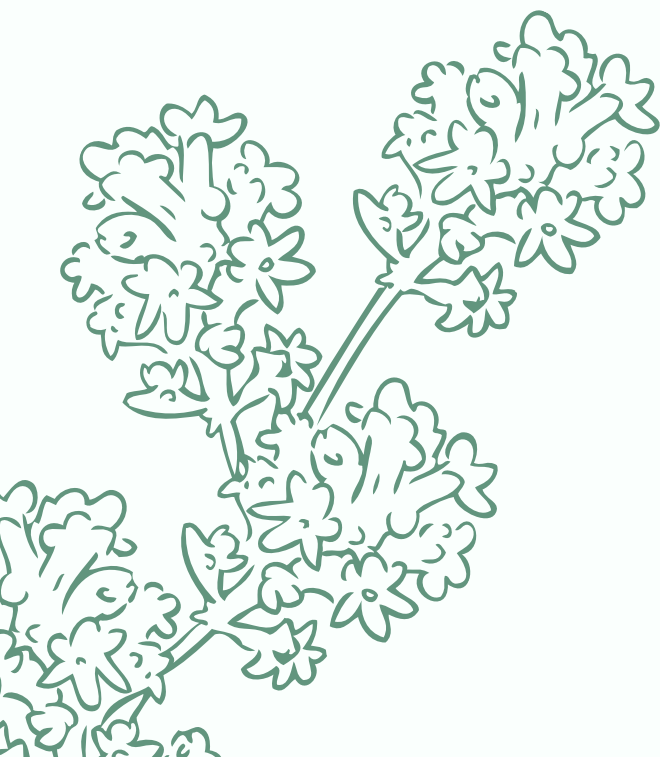




FOUNDER'S NOTE: PRAGYA KAPOOR

Call it our passionate optimism, but we genuinely believe all of us harbour good intentions when it comes to looking out for our own home. Somewhere in the frenzy of the rat-race around us, it's the outcome of those intentions that has taken a hit. As we all inch towards securing our future we drift farther away from the delicate relationship we share with nature. All the rising environmental crises are a result of this very rift. Through Ek Saath, we embark upon a journey to bridge that very gap and replenish this deteriorating relationship. Everything that we put out in nature unmistakably finds its way back to us again in one way or another. We try to guide our lives by the enlightening philosophies of Karma. If only we learn to apply the same logic to our relationship with our environment, we'd know that the only true salvation is a better tomorrow and the only promised heaven is here on our beloved earth. There are those who are yet oblivious to the far-reaching impact their actions have on the planet. While the ones already aware, simply don't know any better. We're not in the business of picking culprits out of victims for we stand to celebrate the very spirit of togetherness. If there's anything to learn from our past then it's the valuable lesson of how we learnt to overcome the darkest of times only by coming together. We seek to revive this very force in our pursuit by empowering all the lives we touch in our own humble ways. In our finite time here, all of us are capable of making an infinite difference. The time has come when just hoping for a better future won't cut it until we step up to make it happen. Or as a wise kindred spirit once sang,

'You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope some day you'll join us
And the world will be as one..'





EK SAATH: THE EARTH FOUNDATION

"Ek Saath is a movement that celebrates our love for nature, earth and life with acts of sustainability"

Founded in 2020, Ek Saath: The Earth Foundation is a charitable trust working in the field of environment and sustainability. With an aim to sensitize and build a sense of responsibility towards the environment among the locals, Ek Saath conducts tree plantation drives and waste clean up centers in partnership with Healing Himalayas in Himachal Pradesh. We have helped in covid relief operations providing ration and food to the needy.

Ek Saath wishes to become citizen movement and voice in our fight against climate change and accomplishing the sustainable development goals



TEAM EK SAATH



RAJAT TIWARI -

Rajat is a writer and mass media graduate. . He's been actively involved at every step of the organization's efforts since its inception.. Managing all the creatives and the operations closely, Rajat has worked immensely in developing the overall appeal of the foundation. Working with Ek Saath, Rajat has found a way to reciprocate the immense love & gratitude he feels for the planet by converting them into meaningful actions.

EK SAATH GOALS

“

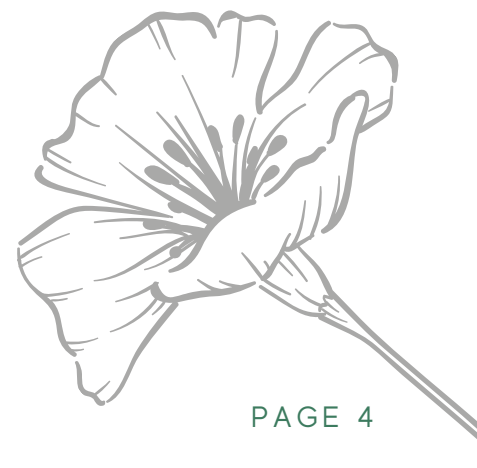
VISION:

Building an eco-friendly, sustainable and zero-waste society collectively for the future of humankind and wildlife.

MISSION:

- Our mission is to create an environment free from ignorance and exploitation by developing a sustainable environment through tree plantations, eradication of plastic pollution that harms human, aquatic and wild life, maximizing reforestation and creating an understanding where human, wildlife and nature co-exist
- To engage people at the grass roots level through education and awareness about the environment and empower communities involved in preserving and understanding nature by bridging the gap that separates us.

”



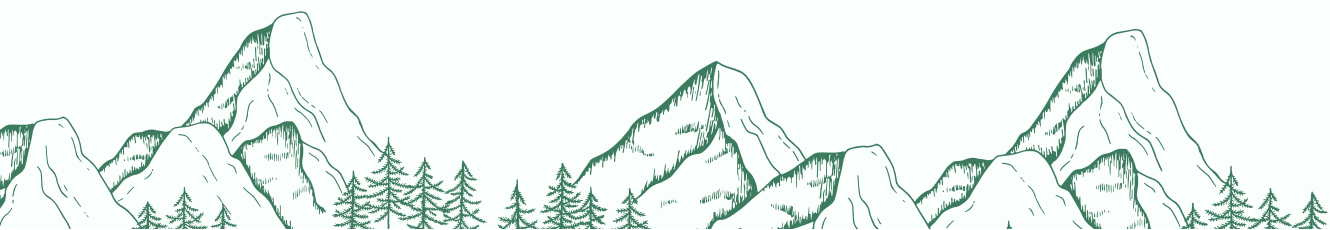
PROJECTS AND STRATEGIES



HEALING HIMALAYAS

Himachal Pradesh has been dealing with the waste problem for many years now. This problem only keeps on increasing due to lack of organised waste collection and segregation centers. Himachal Pradesh is frequented by tourists from all over the world, resulting in even more waste generation in the state leading to open burning of waste and its disposal in the nearby rivers. To tackle the same, Ek Saath foundation in partnership with Healing Himalayas has proposed a waste management project in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. We are in the process to build our first center in Rakcham village, Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh.

It is possible for all institutions to be Earth-friendly. We believe they are ready, but just don't know how, or where to begin. Our aim is to help people choose a sustainable way of running businesses, schools, hospitals etc. through education, by creating options, and by enabling them to put appropriate systems in place. We will invest in programmes and ideas needed to bridge gaps that empower people to choose sustainability as a way of life. The waste management center being the beginning for this.



PROJECTS AND STRATEGIES



BACK TO THE ROOTS

Let's hug trees. But first, let's plant them, and protect them – in the countryside, in cities, in skyscrapers even.

At Ek Saath, We are finding unique ways of creating and protecting forests by involving individuals and corporates, and our focus is on urban forestation, creating forest areas to rehabilitate animals, as well as preserving existing forests. As with everything else, we are creating awareness and imparting education about the importance of living in harmony with nature and how forests are needed for survival – of animals and of us.

As part of this, on our first anniversary, we conducted a tree plantation drive with school kids, teaching them the importance of tree, conservation and nurturing what they planted. We made use of native species over exotics.



PROJECTS AND STRATEGIES



COVID RELIEF PROJECT

The novel Corona Virus pandemic is not a just a health crisis in our country. It is a bigger humanitarian crisis that has put the lives and livelihoods of daily wage earners and their families at risk. To contribute our bit, we diverged our funds for relief operations for the needy during the 1st wave.

We worked closely with the BMC in identifying workers and their families who needed our support for survival. Our team managed to provide essential rations families across Mumbai who were in dire need. Further, to help households without proper cooking facilities, our relief kitchen served meals on a daily-basis to the needy families. Our volunteers and relief workers were given masks, gloves and sanitizers as well as training to maintain proper hygiene and social distancing.



PROJECTS AND STRATEGIES



ZERO WASTE FILM

This is perhaps the easiest way to express our love for the environment, and we are taking up the challenge to make dry and wet waste segregation a habit for those living in the poorer neighbourhoods of cities. Our approach will be a combination of creating not just awareness and education but also of giving incentives for neighbourhoods that make waste segregation a part of their daily routine. This initiative will also reach out to housing societies, schools and offices to help them to earn the tag of Zero Waste Creators.

We took our waste segregation practice to a new realm by making the first zero-waste film in the country. Teaming up with Skrap, we managed over 16,138 kgs* of waste at the Chandigarh Kare Aashiqui film shoot from October 26 to December 21, 2020. Of this, 15,352 kgs or 95.1% was recycled. 578.7 kgs or 3.6% of non-recyclable waste was sent for co-processing/ incineration. 207.5 kgs or 1.3% was handed over to Municipality as Reject waste. Further, the food salvage efforts helped collect and distribute over 1,200 meals in low-income communities.

WAY FORWARD



“Continuing to make an impact, we wish to strengthen our team. Moving forward, we plan to start beach clean up drives and work on making the waste management center in Himachal a successful one along with our partner Healing Himalayas in Himachal Pradesh.

Additionally, we wish to start our own volunteer programme. conduct weekly clean-up drives.

