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Dakshin Foundation *presents* **OUT of the BLUE** *ISSUE ONE*
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This July, Dakshin Foundation turned 10! That's 10 years of field assistants tirelessly working many days and nights to help us collect and collate research data. 10 years of community members, CBOs and fisher unions coming alongside Dakshin to work together towards our common goals of conservation research, natural resource management and sustainable livelihoods. 10 years of donors and like-minded organisations partnering with us, knowing that systemic change takes years to achieve and pouring out their support anyway. We are acutely aware of their contributions and are grateful for how they have transformed our organisation from our fledgling state in 2008 (you can learn more about our origins in this three-part comic series: [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#), [Part 3](#)) to a national organisation with projects cutting across regions and disciplines.

On our 10th anniversary, we are also starting 'Out of the Blue', a Dakshin

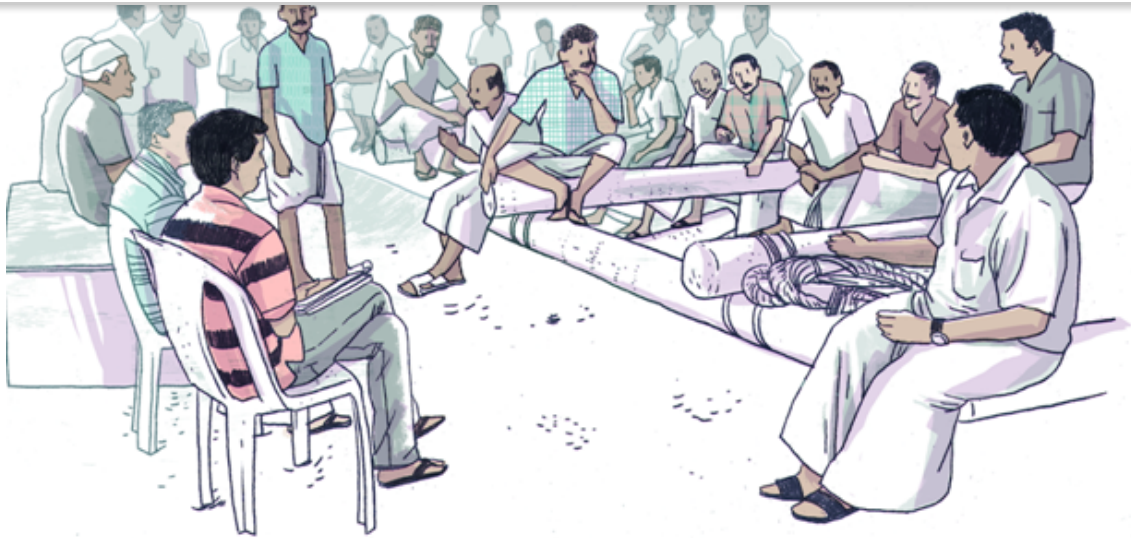
For those who do not like science-jargon as much as we do, this newsletter is intended to be informative but not too technical, objective but with a pinch of the personal. In this issue, you will hear from our researchers working on bycatch in Malvan, on building sustainable fisheries management practices in Lakshadweep, and on developing independent thinkers and curious learners with a strong sense of appreciation for the environment in the Andaman Islands.



Trawler Bycatch at Malvan

Trisha Gupta

Trash fish is sometimes generated in massive quantities, with up to 1,000 kg from a single boat, but little is known about what's in it. We spent five months collecting samples of (often-rotting) fish and pouring over numerous guidebooks to identify the species caught. This was a happy time for Malvan's cats as they feasted on my sampled fish. We also started monitoring bycatch of sharks and rays from trawlers. We were also interested in learning where the trawlers obtained the most bycatch and what fishing gear they used. This information is best obtained on board the fishing vessel while out at sea. [Read more](#)



From Monitoring to Management: Big words for the bigger picture

Ajithraj R. and Ishaan Khot

We have been conducting a community-based fisheries monitoring programme in the Lakshadweep Islands since 2014. Our presence in the islands over the past few years, interactions with the fishing community and outreach activities such as the Fish for the Future calendar series have opened up a new array of opportunities and challenges for us. From this year, the ongoing project of fisheries monitoring is expanding in its scope. The plan now is to keep monitoring running in the background, but actively take steps towards sustainable fisheries management, particularly towards co-management - a system where local communities and decision-makers share powers and responsibilities to manage resources. [Read more](#)



Learning Centre in the Andamans

Mahira Kakajiwala, Sadaf Sethwala and Karishma Modi

Despite the loud discourse on the quality of education, a large number of school going children continue to rote learn their way through academia and are not independent readers or writers by the end of elementary school. As part of the “Islands of Wisdom” project, Dakshin Foundation and ANET, in collaboration with the Wipro Applying Thought in Schools (WATIS) initiative is developing a holistic approach to education in order to strengthen foundational learning. Designed as an after-school programme for students of Classes 3, 4 and 5, the intervention focuses on language, comprehension and expression skills using innovative teaching and learning methods. [Read more](#)

Recent Publications

1. Bijoor, S. 2018. [At ANET - A social science intern in a sea of biologists](#). Andman Chronicle.
2. Rao, C. 2018. [Serpents of the sea](#). Hornbill April-June 2018. p 70-73.
3. Swaminathan, A. 2018. [Tracking a hundred-million-year old giant](#). Hornbill April-June 2018. p 66-69.
4. Shanker, K. 2018. [Rethinking conservation: Cancer, communalism, climate change are more linked than you'd think](#). Scroll.in.
5. Jojan, A. 2018. [A Disastrous Draft for Regulation Coasts](#). Livelaw.in.
6. Sridhar, A. 2018. [Hunting-gathering lives with molluscs](#). Seminar No 702. p 45-49.
7. Sridhar, A. and U Mistry. 02 March 2018. [Amphibious Lives – a photo essay on free diving in the Palk Bay](#). Frontline.
8. Sridhar, A. and U Mistry. 30 March 2018. [A Journey with the Sacred Chank](#). Frontline.
9. Sridhar, A. and U. Mistry. 25 May 2018. [Women divers of Rameswaram](#). Frontline.
10. Sridhar, A. and N. Namboothri. 09 June 2018. [We may see other Sterlite-like protests against polluting industries](#). Hindustan Times.

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