PROGRAM REPORT

On 4th September 2019 Department of Geology, University of Calicut had been conducted an awareness program on "Geological Functioning of Wetlands with special emphasis on Ponnani Kole Wetlands" and organized with the support of State Wetland Authority of Kerala (SWAK) in collaboration with Department of Botany, University of Calicut.

Wetlands are important features in the landscape that provide numerous beneficial services for people and for fish and wildlife. Some of these services, or functions, include protecting and improving water quality, providing fish and wildlife habitats, storing floodwaters and maintaining surface water flow during dry periods. These valuable functions are the result of the unique natural characteristics of wetlands.

Wetlands are among the most productive ecosystems in the world, comparable to rain forests and coral reefs. An immense variety of species of microbes, plants, insects, amphibians, reptiles, birds, fish and mammals can be part of a wetland ecosystem. Climate, landscape shape (topology), geology and the movement and abundance of water help to determine the plants and animals that inhabit each wetland. The complex, dynamic relationships among the organisms inhabiting the wetland environment are called food webs.

Wetlands play an integral role in the ecology of the watershed. The combination of shallow water, high levels of nutrients and primary productivity is ideal for the development of organisms that form the base of the food web and feed many species of fish, amphibians, shellfish and insects. Many species of birds and mammals rely on wetlands for food, water and shelter, especially during migration and breeding.

The program was inaugurated by the Hon.Vice-chancellor Dr.K.Mohammed Basheer and in his inaugural address he was pointed out the role of geosciences to conserve the wetlands especially Ponnani Kole wetlands. Dr.C.C.Harilal (PI, SAWK project, Dept. of botany, University of Calicut) was presided over the function and he made an introductory speech about the program. As a part of this function two technical sessions was arranged. In the first technical session Dr.Harikumar.P.S.(Registrar i/c, & Senior Principal Scientist, CWRDM, Kozhikode) have been delivered a lecture on Conservation and Management of Wetlands of Kerala and followed by the second technical session headed by Dr.Linto Alappat (Assistant Professor & Head, Dept.of Geology and Environmental Sciences, Christ College Autonomous, Irinjalakkuda, Thrissur) and presented a talk on Geological functions and Evolution of Coastal wetlands of Kerala.

The program is organized as a part of the project "Eco-restoration of Ponnani Kole Wetlands through community participation", implemented in the Department of Botany, University of Calicut under financial assistance from SWAK.

State Wetland Authority of Kerala (SWAK)
In Collaboration with
Department of Botany, University of Calicut

AWARENESS PROGRAMME ON GEOLOGICAL FUNCTIONING OF WETLANDS WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON PONNANI KOLE WETLANDS

Department of Geology, University of Calicut

Date: 04th September 2019, 2 pm

Venue: Aryabhatta Hall, University of Calicut

Programme	:	
Welcome	:	**Dr. Adarsh. P** (Coordinator, Department Of Geology, University of Calicut)
Introduction to the Programme	:	**Dr. C.C Harilal** (PI, SWAK Project, Department of Botany, University of Calicut)
Inauguration	:	**Dr. K. Mohammed Basheer** (Hon. Vice Chancellor, University of Calicut)
Technical Session (I)		
Title	:	**Conservation and Management of Wetlands of Kerala** **Dr. Harikumar P.S** (Registrar i/c & Senior Principal Scientist, CWRDM, Kozhikode)
Technical Session (II)		
Title	:	**Geological Functions and Evolution of Coastal Wetlands of Kerala** **Dr. Linto Alappat** (Assistant Professor & Head, Department of Geology & Environmental Science, Christ College Autonomous, Thrissur)
Vote of Thanks	:	**Dr. Sreeja. R** (Assistant Professor, Department of Geology, University of Calicut)

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PONNANI KOLE WETLANDS
Department of Geology, University of Calicut
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