Actions towards sustainability

Till date over 160 partnerships have been achieved with convergence and synergies with major school-based initiatives - National Green Corps, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partnerships</th>
<th>Government</th>
<th>NGOs</th>
<th>Others</th>
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<td></td>
<td>53</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>33</td>
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Department of Science and Technology, Autonomous Institutions, Non Government Organization and Academic Institutions

Andhra Pradesh: Produce from the kitchen garden developed by students helps to enrich the midday meal.

Maharashtra: Eco-friendly celebration of festivals practiced by students of a school.

Sikkim: Segregation of waste being practiced by students.

Assam: Students have regular Bihu dance classes which help in connecting local cultural practices to nature.

Tamil Nadu: Cycling to school - Energy conservation initiatives of a school.

West Bengal: Students maintain a solar cum wind hybrid system set up with the help of a government scheme.

Gujarat: Students create a system for channelization of waste water from the drinking area to the school garden.

Jammu & Kashmir: Students make fences for the protection of saplings planted by them.
The programme

Paryavaran Mitra (Friends of Environment) builds on KBPA campaign and is a nationwide initiative to create a network of 20 million young green leaders, from schools across the country, having awareness, knowledge, commitment and potential to meet the challenges of environmental sustainability at their spheres of influence.

A ‘Paryavaran Mitra’ is a student who demonstrates environmental citizenship qualities by positive change in behaviour and action at individual, school, family and community levels.

Objectives

- To instil required attitude and values towards environmental sustainability.
- To prepare students to remain in society as environmentally responsible citizens.
- To build skills and understanding amongst students on environmental sustainability through hands-on experience in their immediate environment.
- To raise awareness and understanding of the issues relating to environmental sustainability amongst teachers/educators/NGOs, and to enable them to facilitate students to be a Paryavaran Mitra.
- To provide schools with access to theme-based, customized material on sustainability education.
- To create networks and platforms for sharing of knowledge and experiences.
- To develop and reinforce partnerships for maximization of impacts.

Themes

- Water and Sanitation
- Energy
- Biodiversity and Greening
- Waste Management
- Culture and Heritage

Resource materials

- Paryavaran Mitra Kit containing basic awareness material.
- ‘Explore, Discover, Think, Act’, a menu of 51 action ideas under the five themes.
- Themes Poster
- Oath Poster
- ‘Explore, Discover, Think, Act,’ a menu of 51 action ideas under the five themes.

Programme Strategies

1. Linking resource materials with curriculum for infusing and integrating Environmental Education.
2. Aligning to national policies like Right to Education, Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation and Project Based Learning for Environmental Education.
3. Focusing on positive actions related to the themes, within the school and community.
4. Contextualizing the themes to local issues and programmes.
5. Aligning with international processes – The Earth Charter, Decade for Education for Sustainable Development, UNEP TUNZA, RIO + 20 (UNCSD) and UNCBD.
6. Offering rewards and recognition for creating aspiration, and motivating schools to share and learn.
7. Creating Lead Schools, which take the initiative and demonstrate the capacity to guide other schools.
8. Optimizing synergies with key programmes and institutions. Partnerships with the National Green Corps programme of MoEF, with State Education Departments help to spread the reach and enhance quality.
9. Building on a variety of partnerships - from UN agencies, to grassroots organizations, and creating a dynamic network.