



## A Report on World Wetlands Day – 2020

2<sup>nd</sup> February is observed as World Wetlands Day since 1996, marking the date of the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands in the Iranian city of Ramsar in 1971. On account of World Wetlands Day 2020, a poster was released by Dr. K. Sankar, Director, SACON, carrying the theme “*Wetlands and Biodiversity*”. The SACON ENVIS RP also organised a drawing competition on “Wetlands and Biodiversity” to the school children of Panchayat Union Middle School, Thoomanur, a tribal Village near Anaikatty hills, Coimbatore.

Dr. M. Mahendiran, Senior Scientist of Wetland Ecology division of SACON briefed about the objectives and activities of SACON in conservation of biodiversity. He also encouraged the children to protect and conserve the wetlands.

Mrs. A. Julffia Begam, Information Officer, SACON ENVIS RP interacted with the school children about the importance and uses of wetlands. Followed by that, videos on different types of Wetland and their biodiversity were screened. In the continuation of activities, Mr. Bhoopal Santhosh, GSDP Alumni of SACON ENVIS RP who has initiated Eco Vibes, an Environmental organisation interacted with the students by conducting an awareness game "Sustainable Fishing".

A tree planting ceremony took place followed by that and the following saplings were planted by the school children

1. *Pterocarpus marsupium*
2. *Pongamia pin Ata*

Over 50 students, 5 school teachers, researchers and local people took part in the programme. The ENVIS team distributed biodiversity stickers to all the children, participation certificates and prizes to the winners. The programme was concluded with the vote of thanks of Mrs. T. Vidhya, Assistant Headmaster of the school.



Dr. K. Sankar, Director, SACON releasing the World Wetlands day 2020 Poster



Ms. A. Julffia Begam, IO, SACON ENVIS, interacting with the students



Dr. M. Mahendiran, Senior Scientist, SACON addressing the students



Video Screening



Drawing competition



Mr. Bhoopal Santhosh playing awareness  
Games with the children



Tree plantation done by the students



Certificate Distribution