

ROOTS ACROSS INDIA





INTRODUCTION

Roots Across India is an afforestation initiative led by Tapas Foundation in collaboration with Bajaj Finance, designed to address deforestation, climate change, and urban pollution while fostering a culture of environmental responsibility. During this phase, the initiative successfully planted **2,00,000 trees across 53 cities in 12 states, reaching 3,50,000 people nationwide.**

Conceived as a movement rather than a standalone plantation drive, Roots Across India combined large-scale afforestation with community engagement, awareness-building, and livelihood generation. The initiative reached 3,000+ employees, engaged 450+ volunteers, and generated 5,000+ employment opportunities, ensuring that environmental action translated into social and economic value. 27,000 saplings were planted in schools, hospitals, parks, ashrams, community grounds, playgrounds, and public places, transforming everyday environments into greener, healthier, and more inclusive spaces.

AGROFORESTRY: Cultivating Green Livelihoods

Agroforestry was a cornerstone of the Roots Across India initiative, with 1,70,000 trees planted in collaboration with 250+ farmers across multiple regions. By integrating trees with sustainable agricultural practices, the program enhanced soil health, water retention, biodiversity, and climate resilience.

Plantations focused on a mix of fruit-bearing and livelihood-supporting species, including: Mango, Guava, Lemon, Jamun, Aamla, Jackfruit, and Kinnu. And timber and native species to support ecological balance and long-term sustainability: Mahogany, Teak, Rosewood, Sandalwood, Vengai, Neem, and Arjun.

Planting in farmlands encouraged diversified land use, helping farmers secure additional income while contributing to long-term ecological stability.

Employment generated through plantation and maintenance activities further strengthened local livelihoods.

This approach demonstrates a scalable model where environmental restoration and economic development reinforce each other, creating resilient agro-ecosystems and empowered communities.



MANGROVES:

Guardians of the Coastline

Recognising the vital role of mangroves in climate adaptation and coastal protection, Roots Across India planted 20,000 mangrove saplings in Kalpakkam (13,000) and Chengalpattu (7,000), key coastal areas requiring ecological restoration. The species planted included: *Avicennia marina* and *Rhizophora*.

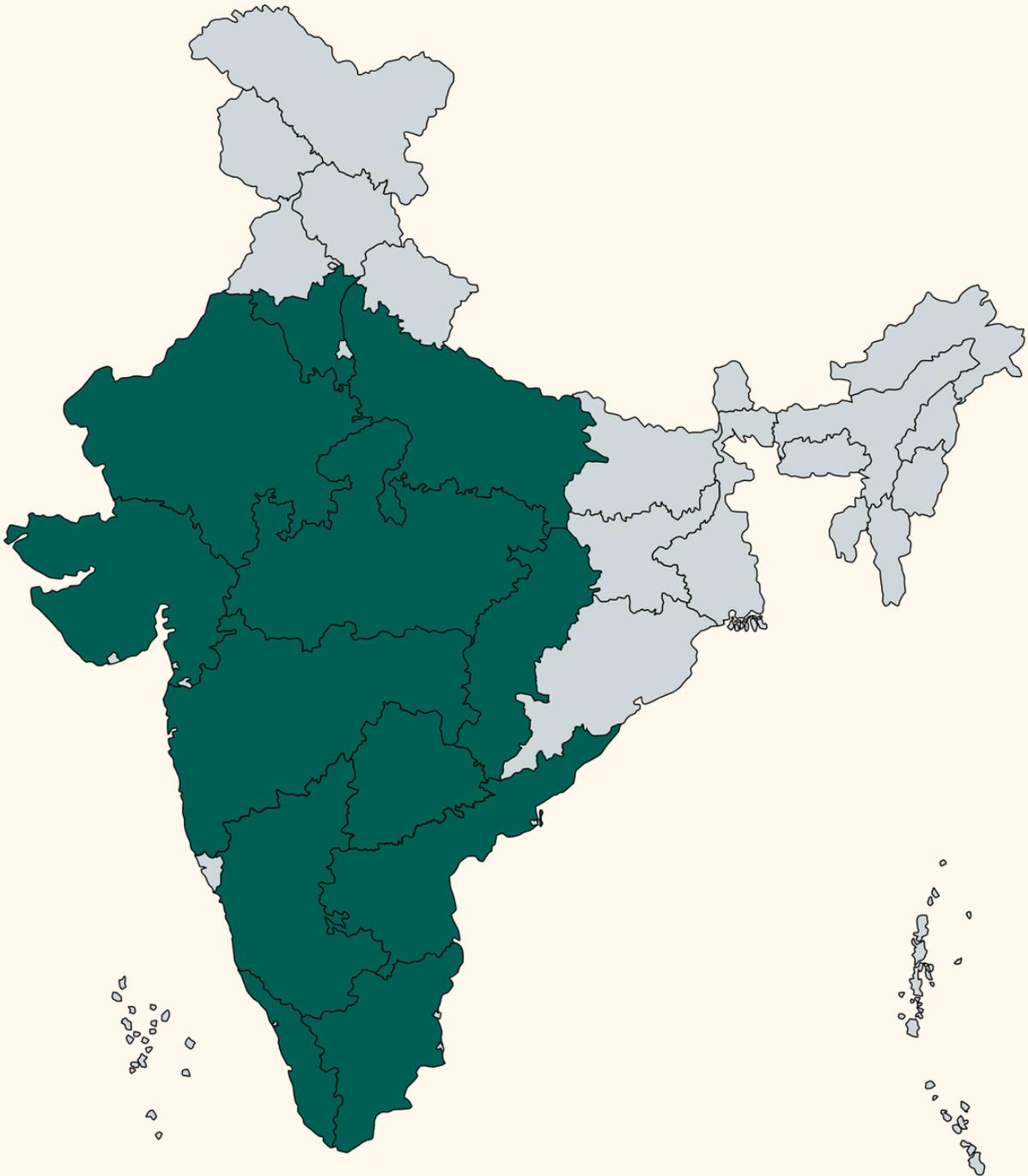
Through these targeted plantations, the initiative strengthened coastal resilience, protected local ecosystems, and promoted community awareness about the importance of preserving mangrove forests. This effort complements inland afforestation, creating a holistic approach to environmental conservation that spans both terrestrial and coastal landscapes.



Mangroves serve as natural buffers against coastal erosion, storm surges, and rising sea levels, while acting as critical carbon sinks and supporting biodiversity hotspots.

OUR REACH

The project covered diverse landscapes, reaching urban, rural, and ecologically sensitive regions across India, including Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh



OUR IMPACT



Environmental Impact

01

2,00,000+ trees planted across **53** cities in **12** states, including schools, colleges, public parks, hospitals, farmlands, and coastal areas.

02

Agroforestry plantations: 1,70,000 saplings supporting biodiversity, soil health, water conservation, and farmer livelihoods.

03

Mangrove plantations: 20,000 saplings in Kalpakkam and Chengalpattu, strengthening coastal resilience, protecting ecosystems, and sequestering carbon.

04

Plantations included **30+** native, fruit-bearing, timber, and coastal species, enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem restoration.

05

20,000 seed pens and bookmarks were distributed to engage communities and promote ongoing environmental awareness and action.



Community & Social Impact

01

3,50,000 people reached through awareness drives, plantation activities, and community engagement

02

450+ volunteers engaged, strengthening grassroots participation

03

3,000+ employees reached, encouraging corporate participation in sustainability initiatives



Livelihood & Economic Impact

01

5,000+ employment opportunities generated through plantation, maintenance, and allied activities

02

250+ farmers engaged, supporting local livelihoods



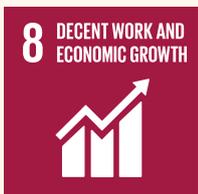
Institutional Engagement

Plantation activities were carried out across a wide range of public and institutional spaces, including:

- Schools and colleges
- Hospitals
- Public parks and community areas

These interventions transformed everyday spaces into healthier, greener environments while fostering a sense of shared ownership and responsibility.

Our work aligns with the following Sustainable Development Goals:



WAY FORWARD

As this phase of Roots Across India concludes, the initiative stands as a scalable and inclusive model of environmental action—one that integrates afforestation, agroforestry, and coastal ecosystem restoration with community participation and livelihood generation. The 2,00,000 trees planted represent a long-term investment in ecological resilience, healthier communities, and sustainable development.

Tapas Foundation and Bajaj Finance remain committed to expanding these efforts, deepening stakeholder engagement, and strengthening ecosystems that will continue to thrive for generations to come.



PHOTO GALLERY:

Moments that led to a movement





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