



14 TREES FOUNDATION



ANNUAL REPORT 24-25



From the Founder's desk



Dear Readers,

Wow—what an incredible year it has been!



This past year has truly been one of growth for 14 Trees Foundation. Just like barren land slowly blossoms into a thriving ecosystem, we too have evolved—organically and, in many ways, inorganically. What began as a humble initiative has now grown into a movement, powered by purpose and nurtured by the passion of our ever-expanding community.

Until now, our efforts were largely focused on responding to inbound requests. But this year, we witnessed a remarkable shift. The number of volunteers has grown significantly, and with them, so has our reach—more visitors on our sites, more land under restoration, more water bodies rejuvenated, and more lives touched.

We're deeply grateful to the organizations that have embraced this green initiative. Some have pledged a tree in the name of every employee, while others have committed to planting multiple trees for each team member. Some celebrate birthdays by gifting trees, and others have chosen tree cards as meaningful gifts for festivals like Diwali and New Year.

One of the highlights of the year has been the rising popularity of our Tree Gift Cards. We've also seen a beautiful shift among our HNI donors and volunteers—from traditional gift boxes to eco-conscious gifting. More and more individuals are choosing to gift trees to their loved ones, becoming true eco-champions in the process.

Other highlight of this year has been our successful move into a new office space. Though it's a modest setup, this shift marks a significant milestone in our journey, reflecting both our growth and our commitment to creating a more focused and productive work environment.

Thank you for being an integral part of this journey. Your support fuels our mission and your belief inspires our actions. We hope you enjoy reading this report as much as we enjoyed putting it together.

With gratitude and green wishes,

Pravin Bhagwat
Founder, 14 Trees Foundation



Table of contents

<i>About us</i>	4-5
<i>Our impact so far</i>	6
<i>2024-2025 at a glance</i>	7-8
<i>Biodiversity</i>	9-10
<i>Net Zero workshops</i>	11
<i>Our Representative projects</i>	12
<i>Collaborations</i>	13-16
<i>Our Microventures</i>	17
<i>Stories of change</i>	18-20
<i>Highlight of the year</i>	21-23
<i>Our Visitors</i>	24
<i>Our Team</i>	25
<i>Get in touch</i>	26



About us

“Re-forest India by creating forests on uncultivable and barren land”

Project 14 Trees is a grassroots effort for ecology restoration and nature conservation. Our mission is to undo the damage caused to Nature by humans, regrow forests on ecologically devastated patches of land, restore ecology, rebuild biodiversity, generate sustainable livelihoods, inspire all stakeholders (tribals, villagers, urban dwellers) to engage, act and promote harmonious, sustainable coexistence with nature.

The project started in 2013 in village Vetale in Khed, Pune India. The piece of land as shown in the picture was barren, rocky, without soil and had no access to water.

Today, the same land as shown in the picture hosts a lush green forest with 300+ native trees. This remarkable transformation has been achieved over a decade relying only on rain water — without bringing piped water from outside, without transporting water using tankers and without digging bore-wells.

It took several years to carry out proof of concept. 14 Trees Foundation (14 Trees or 14TF) was registered in June 2020 marking the formalization of the project.



About Us- Restoration Steps



1. Plot identification for plantation



2. Pond creation with no water sources



3. Pit digging and preparation of land



4. Identification & Selection of saplings



5. Plantation of saplings



6. Watering & plant maintenance



7. Compound /protection measures



8. Plant Fire Safety Measures



Our Impact so far

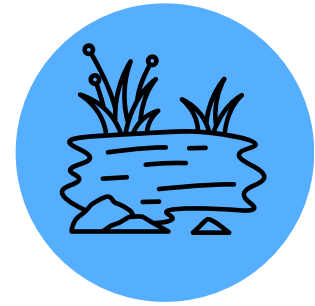
cumulative data



**1000+ Acres
of land
Restored**



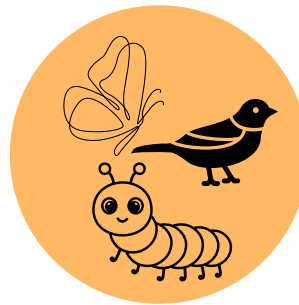
**200,000+
Trees Planted**



**100+
Ponds**



**500+ Native
species**



**300+
Biodiversity
species**



**200+ Tribals
employed**



**26 Villages
adopted**



12 Talukas



6 Districts



**40+ CSR
Donors**



**15+ Micro-
ventures**



**250+ Villages
reached**



2024-2025 at a Glance (1/2)

250+ Individual donors

27 Corporate donors

12 Foundations/ Institutes donors

2,000+ Gift cards celebrated

17 Ecological surveys conducted

3 Events

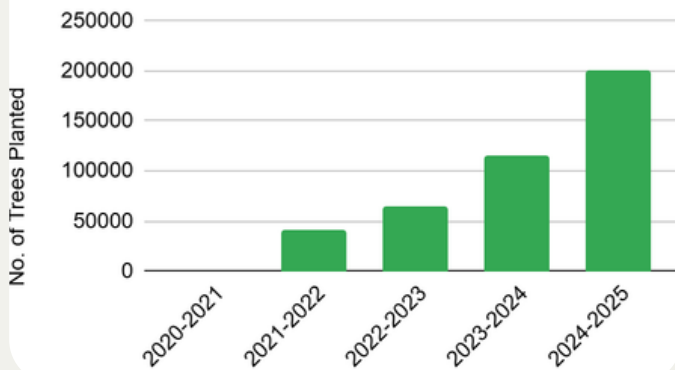
1,000+ Site visits conducted



2024-2025 at a Glance (2/2)

Trees Planted

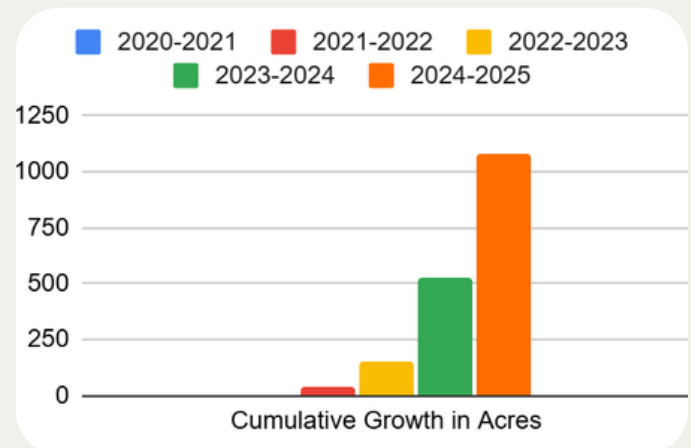
Cumulative Trees planted



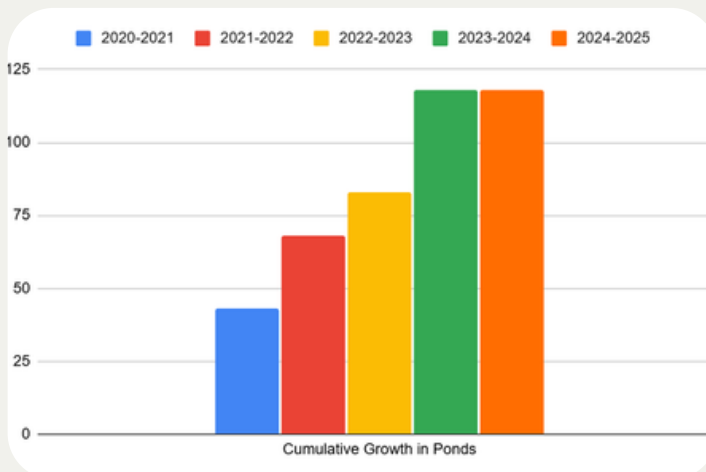
Over the past five years, 14 Trees Foundation has witnessed exponential growth in tree planting efforts—a reflection of both ecological recovery and community resilience. From just 41K trees planted in 2020–21, the numbers rose dramatically to over 203,000 trees by 2024–25. This surge didn't happen overnight. The initial years were defined by rocky, uncultivable terrain and severe water scarcity. Once rainwater harvesting systems stabilized and micro-ecosystems began to support life, tree growth accelerated, proving that regeneration follows its own patient and non-linear timeline.

Growth in acres

Restoration efforts have mirrored this upward trajectory. From 44.5 acres added in 2021–22, the restored area reached 1,083 acres by 2024–25. This transformation isn't just in numbers—it's in the land itself. Previously barren zones now support diverse native species, thanks to thoughtful site selection, soil revival through natural mulching, and proximity to water ponds. Unlike city landscapes where tree placement is uniform, these restored forests reflect true wilderness: varied density, patches of scrubland, and native ecological rhythms—proof that real **“forests are grown, not planted”**



Growth in ponds

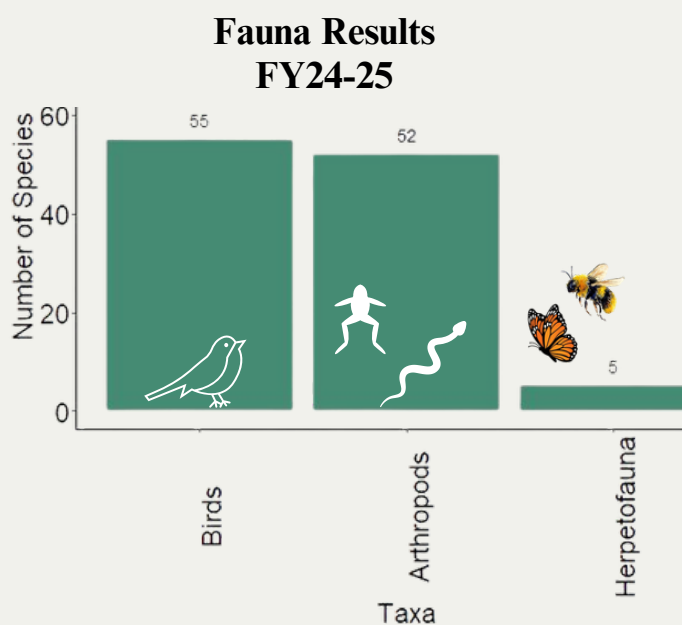
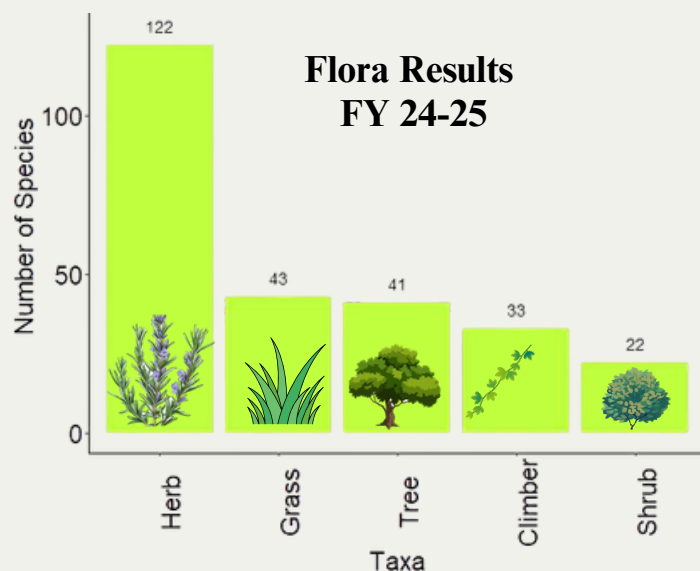


Water, the most critical ingredient in this journey, has been restored through intentional pond design and placement. From 43 ponds in 2020–21 to 118 by 2024–25, these structures have become lifelines for both land and life. Percolation ponds helped raise groundwater levels, creating the underground reserves necessary to sustain forest growth year-round. Storage ponds, designed for long-term water retention, are now interconnected with reforestation zones, enabling nature to do the rest. This integrated system shows how water and forest growth are not parallel goals—they are interdependent forces in the healing of the land.



Biodiversity

Since FY 2020-21, our team has conducted periodic surveys to document the flora and fauna at our sites. The primary goal of these surveys is to record the species richness (number of species) of various plant (floral taxa) and animal groups (faunal taxa). We partnered with the Ecological Society (ES) for the biodiversity survey at our base site in Vetale village and 13 other Gairans where we recorded the flora and fauna observations.



Biodiversity - Moth Survey

Prof Ramana Athreya and his team at Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) has been conducting monthly moth sampling and surveys this year.



Net-Zero Workshop

In collaboration with ATREE (Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment) 14 Trees Foundation co-hosted the fourth edition of the Net Zero Dialogues, aiming to define parameters for assessing the social and ecological impacts of renewable energy projects that could inform policy. To facilitate this discussion, ATREE, 14 Trees Foundation, Ecological Society Pune, and the Chandrakanta Kesavan Center for Energy Policy and Climate Solutions at IIT Kanpur convened a one-day workshop at ATREE, Bangalore, on 31st August 2024. This workshop brought together diverse stakeholders from the renewable energy sector, including experts in ecology, energy policy, solar and wind industries, government representatives, civil society members, project implementers, and academicians from various institutions.



Our Representative Projects

TCS Fortress Grove

TCS Fortress is formed by former TCS employees in Maharashtra, India. Established in 2016, this community focuses on networking, knowledge-sharing, and community service. 241 Trees were planted under this campaign



Shirish Deodhar Family Grove

Mr. Shirish Deodhar has generously donated 167 trees in honor of his family and friends, both near and far, creating what he fondly calls his "family grove." Each tree stands as a living tribute to the bonds he cherishes—symbolizing love, gratitude, and lasting connection. This grove is not only a beautiful environmental gesture but also a meaningful way to celebrate relationships across generations and geographies.



Collaborations- Academic

BKPS is one of the oldest architecture colleges in Pune. On 13th Feb 24, First year students from BKPS College of Architecture Pune, visited our vetale site to study the efforts taken by 14Trees Foundation towards restoration. They also learned about environment sustainable materials.

Architecture College Visit



Collaborations- Academic

Every year, we launch a meaningful green initiative in collaboration with schools in the region. Embracing the spirit of sustainability, we organised tree plantation drives aimed at nurturing a greener tomorrow. In schools, each child was given a plant — either to be planted within the school campus or to be taken home and cared for with their families. This not only fostered a sense of environmental responsibility among students but also brought the message of conservation into their homes and communities.



Plantation drives in Government schools



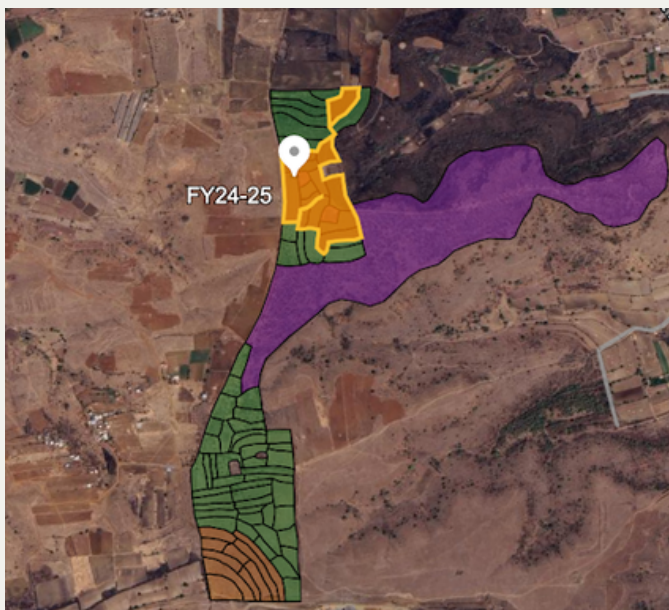
Collaborations- Corporate

With the generous support of corporate donations, we have been able to transform several barren lands and degraded gairans (community grazing lands) around Pune. These contributions have enabled us to carry out large-scale restoration efforts—planting native trees, improving soil health, and creating water conservation structures like ponds and trenches.



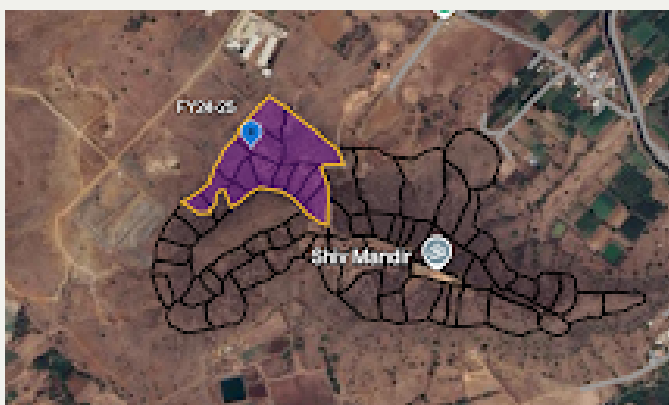
A leading multinational software development company at Pargaon site

- Restoration of 25 Acres of land over last 3 years.
- 36 Volunteering visits
- 6,928 Volunteering hours unlocked



A leading multinational manufacturing company at Gargotwadi site

- Restoration of 15 Acres of land over last 3 years
- 4 Volunteering visits
- 272 Volunteering hours unlocked



A leading Indian product development company at Avasari site

- Restoration of 10 Acres of land over the last 2 years.
- 10 Volunteering visits
- 1,744 volunteering hours unlocked



Collaborations- NGO

Avirat Shramdaan



Oikos



Our Microventures

Terrace Farming Kits

In a country contributing widely to the global economy, agriculture has declined due to industrialization. To counteract this problem, terrace farming is a great alternative to ensure nutritional food supplies. These terrace farming kits aid the consumer's convenience to attain that goal. Our kits compromise pre-selected seeds, potting mix, and other supplies fostering healthier plant-based living spaces



Bamboo cultivation

As part of a microventure, over 10 different species of bamboo were planted on the site like Mes bamboo, Mini bamboo, Thakur patak bamboo, block bamboo, bhala bamboo, etc The workers are actively experimenting with various bamboo products, such as furniture and gazebos, all crafted using bamboo harvested directly from the 14 Trees site.



Wood carvings

This initiative is a microventure that gives new life to fallen trees. Local tribal artisans skillfully carve the reclaimed wood into unique pieces—often showcasing the names of grove plantations. These can also be customized into handcrafted nameplates for homes or offices, combining sustainability with craftsmanship.



Organic rice farming

The experiment in cultivating different varieties of rice was a success, with five distinct types of rice successfully grown.



Stories of change - Sustainability

Building with Nature

As the area under 14 Trees expands, there is a need to set up structures that can be used as shelters for staff, visitors as well as store houses. Anant Tayade, our onsite Manager and the onsite team have built stone and bamboo shelters using local material without any expert help. This stone structure has used the rocks which were available from the digging of ponds



Powering Sustainable Water Solutions

This year, we successfully piloted the installation of a 3HP portable solar pump system powered by high-efficiency 545W solar panels, fixed at a central location. What makes this setup particularly innovative is its ability to draw water simultaneously from four separate ponds on the foundation's land. This demonstrates not only the system's power and efficiency but also its potential for multi-source water management using a single, sustainable energy solution.



Stories of change- People

"Roots of Change: Meerabai's Journey to Stability and Hope"

14 Trees has unknowingly transformed some lives. Meerabai Dore's is one of them. Meerabai is a middle-aged woman who has been working at 14 Trees for the past 4 years.. Earlier, she used to work on big farms as a laborer with her husband. Whatever little she earned, she spent on food for the family. And her husband would spend it all on liquor. As if her husband wasn't enough burden on her family already, her son also got into heavy drinking habit. Taking loans from their employers wasn't easy either. Lenders would take a heavy interest, and then her family would spend months just trying to pay it back.



"It was difficult to feed my husband, children, and grandchildren. Life was becoming more and more depressing. Then my sister-in-law introduced me to this project. Working here brought about a huge transformation in our lives." Recently, she persuaded us to employ her husband too. Because all of their salaries are directly deposited in their respective bank accounts, they have learned how to save money and use it sparingly. "We don't get cash in our hands anymore, so my husband has started drinking less. He eats food at home now." A while ago when her grandson had to be admitted to the hospital for meningitis, she got financial assistance from 14 Trees team members. "I am grateful to have landed at such a secure place to work. Hopefully, slowly, I can convince my family that life is to be lived beautifully and happily and not whiled away. This job has helped me to do that, and I'm happy here"

"Growing Opportunities: Gulab Kedari's Journey from City Dreams to Rural Transformation"



Gulab Kedari would have been searching for an office boy job if it were not for 14 trees. "I would likely have been sitting at home without anything to do". An art student, Gulab never thought he would be working in the fields. But in just eight months of joining the project, he is exploring new possibilities and going beyond the conventional mindset of finding a job in the city. Today, Gulab keeps track of all workers and solves any questions they might have. He's also in tune with the aim of the project- ecological restoration. He's aware of the benefits and is practising something that he thought was limited to the theory in his textbooks.



Stories of change- Tree cards

A gift of 31 trees from KPIT to Sachin Tikekar for 31 years of service.



Sprih uses tree gift cards to reach out to CFO prospects



As part of our ongoing afforestation and engagement efforts, 200 trees have been successfully planted on Dakshana Forest land. This initiative contributes directly to our environmental goals and enhances our carbon offset footprint.

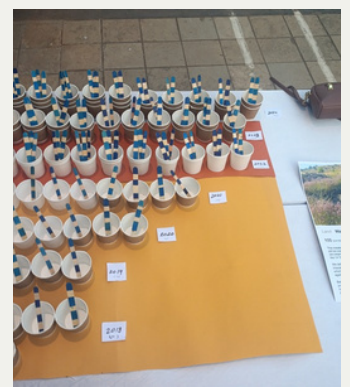
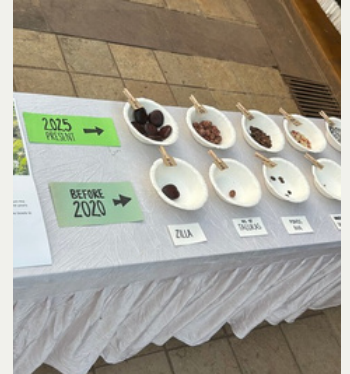
To support this project and extend its impact, Vivek Jain developed an automated system for generating personalized greeting cards. These cards commemorate the tree plantation and are intended to serve as meaningful tokens of appreciation.

Sprih is distributing these 200 personalized gift cards to selected CFO prospects. Each card is being sent along with a copy of CIO Magazine, aiming to foster goodwill and strengthen stakeholder engagement through a blend of environmental action and professional outreach.



Highlight of the year (1/3)

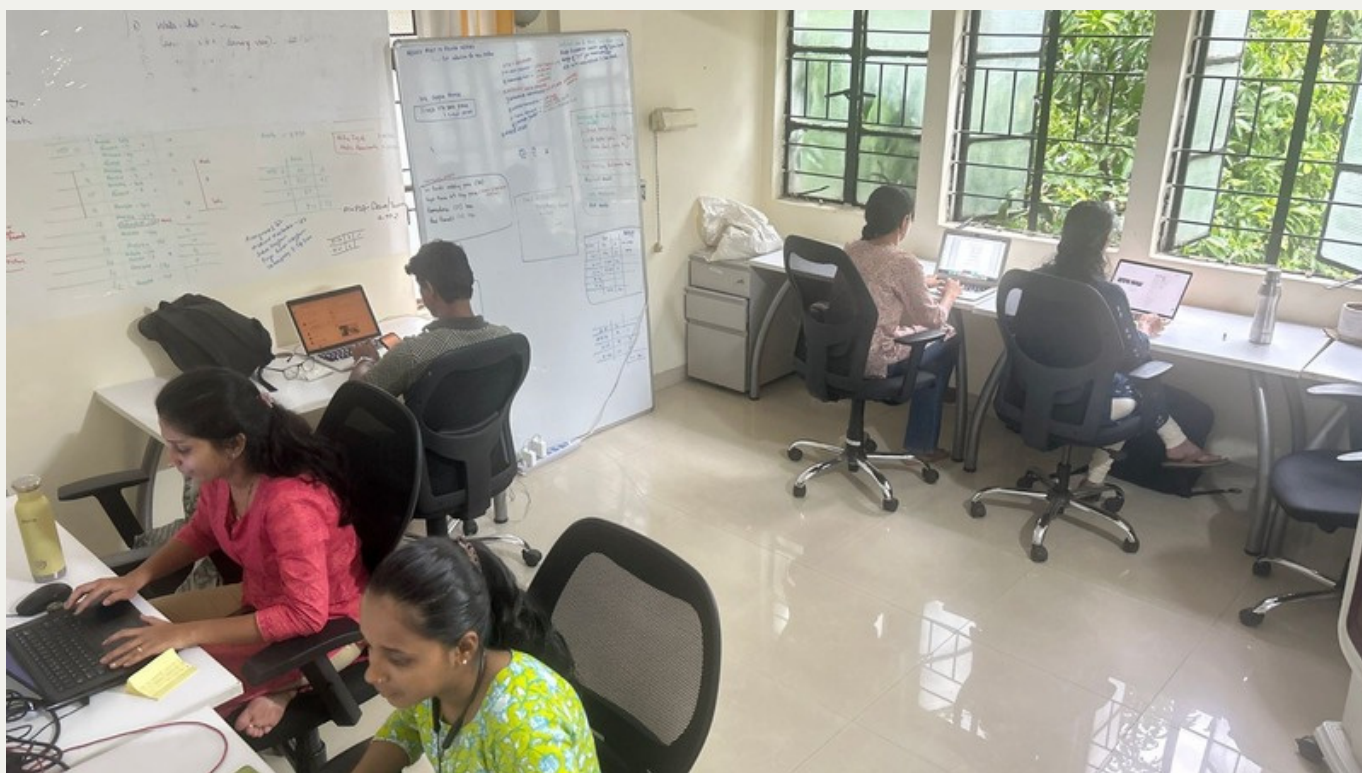
We hosted two heartfelt gatherings for your donors, celebrating our journey and the progress made so far. The first event took place on January 12, 2025, at DLRC School, Pune and the second on January 18, 2025, at Vascon Paradise Club House in Baner, Pune. Both evenings were filled with warm, free-flowing conversations, bringing together over 85 well-wishers and supporters at each venue. A special highlight of the event was the premiere screening of “Aranya”, a beautiful short animated film by Medha Bhagwat, making the evening even more memorable.



Highlight of the year (2/3)

At the beginning of this financial year, 14 Trees Foundation reached an important milestone: for the first time, we had a full-time core team of three members. This marked a significant shift from a purely volunteer-driven initiative to a more structured, capacity-focused organization. To support this transition, we began operations out of a shared workspace at the Atal Incubation Center (AIC) within IISER Pune—a space that aligned with our values of collaboration, science-driven innovation, and sustainability.

As our activities and team expanded and the need for dedicated coordination grew, in Jan'25 we established a 25-seater office in Aundh, Pune—our first standalone space. This office not only provides room for the expanding team but it serves as a hub for planning, design, and coordination.



Highlight of the year (3/3)

At the 19th Pune Design Festival, held in 2025, Pravin Bhagwat, Founder of the 14 Trees Foundation, delivered an insightful talk titled "Sustainable Futures – the Power of Mindful Impact." In this session, Mr. Bhagwat emphasized the importance of integrating sustainability into design practices, advocating for mindful decision-making that considers environmental and social impacts. His presentation highlighted how thoughtful design can drive positive change, encouraging designers to adopt practices that are both innovative and responsible. Bhagwat's talk was part of a series of concurrent sessions focused on sustainable design and education, reflecting the festival's commitment to promoting environmentally conscious design practices .

Sustainable Futures – the Power of Mindful Impact

Concurrent Sessions: Forum 3 – Mahogany



Gurudas Nulkar



Pravin Bhagwat



Our Visitors



On 61st Birthday of Lalitha and Chandra , 61 trees were planted by Mala and Ram



On 60th Birthday of Madhavi Pathak



Our Teams



Get in touch



**Plant your 14 Trees !
Leave no carbon footprint behind.**

Please drop us an email at csr@14trees.org
Visit us at www.14trees.org

Site Address

14 Trees Foundation
Vetale, Taluka Khed
Pune - 412404
Maharashtra

Pune Office

14 Trees Foundation
Atal Incubation Centre (AIC)
IISER-Pune (411008)
Maharashtra

