

# Coexistence

## The Great Elephant Migration





# The Coexistence Paradigm

Over the last few decades, the population of humans, elephants, and tigers have **doubled** in India, coexisting in amazing ways!

75% of the elephant's range is shared with humans.

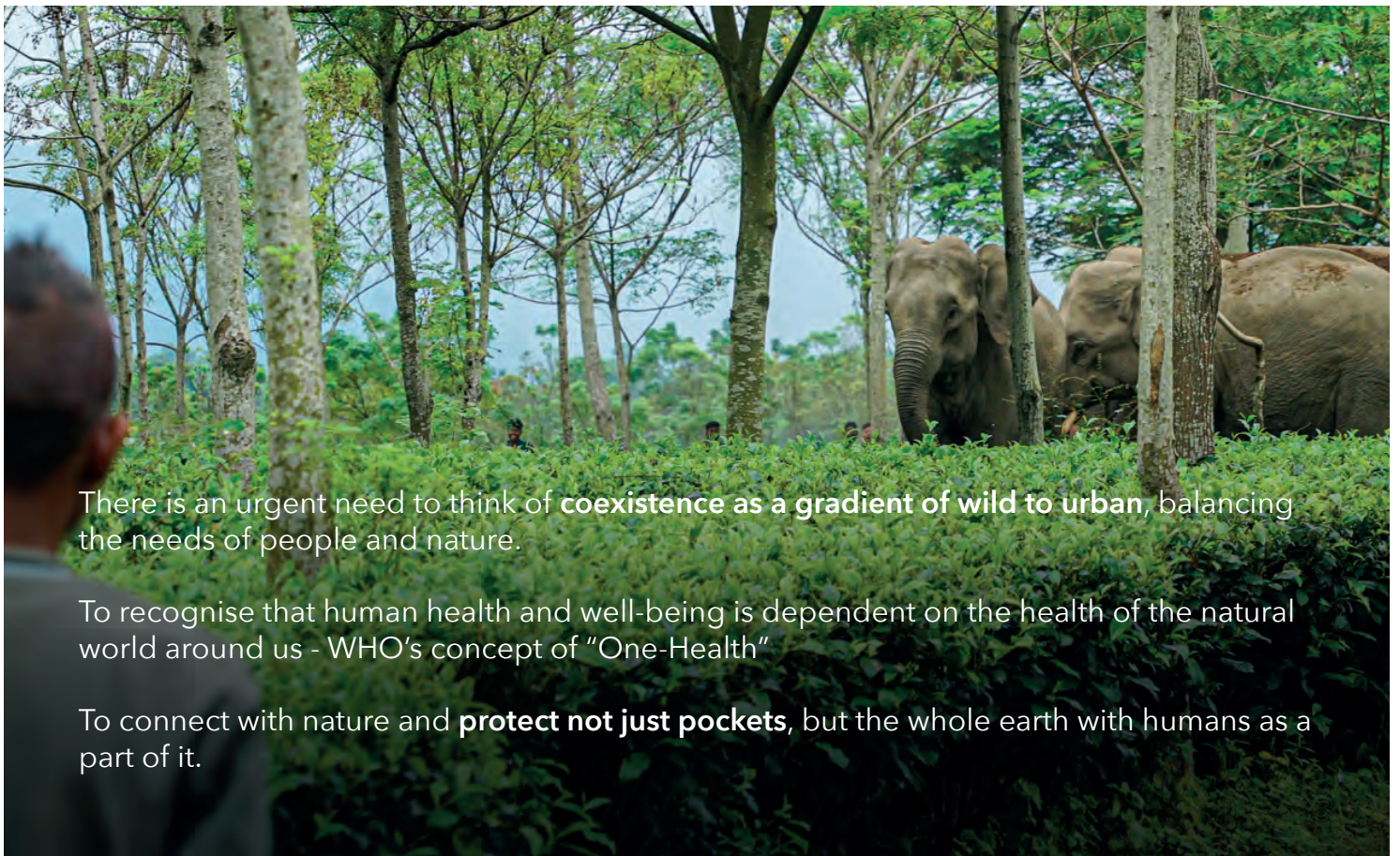
Karnataka is home to more elephants than any other state in India.

Multiple species depend on shared spaces for their survival.

India can teach the world to coexist with wildlife.







There is an urgent need to think of **coexistence as a gradient of wild to urban**, balancing the needs of people and nature.

To recognise that human health and well-being is dependent on the health of the natural world around us - WHO's concept of "One-Health"

To connect with nature and **protect not just pockets**, but the whole earth with humans as a part of it.



To celebrate the amazing stories of rural Indians who have coexisted with wild animals for generations, while asking ourselves what species we in Bengaluru are able to coexist with.





# Coexistence Bengaluru

**100 Lantana elephants** are migrating to Bengaluru's iconic gardens **through the month of February 2024**, along with smaller herds passing through tech parks, government offices, metro stations, and smaller green spaces across the city.

**A range of expert talks**, to provide Bengaluru's thriving wildlife enthusiast community with an opportunity to take a deep dive into the coexistence paradigm.

**Workshops and roundtables** to consolidate the current perspectives around coexistence, one health, and managing invasive species, with a push into the policy space through ministerial level public discussions.

**A Coexistence film festival and photo exhibition** to celebrate various human-nature relationships.

**Nature walks, birding, and role-play games** for a deeper understanding of coexistence and to better appreciate urban biodiversity.

**A travelling exhibition** will make its way to various companies across the city, calling on people to actively document the diversity of species that live alongside humans in Bengaluru.





# The Lantana Elephants

Lantana is a **harmful and toxic weed** that is taking over forests across India, making them unusable for most animals. Its use in making the elephant sculptures helps **improve habitat for elephants** and a host of other species.



The elephants are made by **150 indigenous people** from the Kattunayakan/Jenukuruba, Bettakurumba, Paniya, and Soliga communities, who have gained an empowering livelihood over the last 5 years.

Each lantana sculpture **represents a real wild elephant** that coexists with people in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve of South India. They are auctioned/sold to raise funds to support human-wildlife coexistence in India through the [coexistenceconsortium.com](https://coexistenceconsortium.com)









The Great Migration made its way through London, Cochin, and will soon travel across the USA. Some found homes in Singapore, Bahrain, Delhi, Hyderabad, Bahamas, among many more.

But the herd continues to travel across the world, highlighting the urgent need for human-wildlife coexistence.







Organised by a collective of institutions promoting Coexistence



**ELEPHANT FAMILY**  
Preserving elephants and their habitat

**EXISTENCE NSORTIUM**



**asaar**



**BIODIVERSITY INDIA**  
Conserving Nature's Heritage



**INK talks**

**Jgi JAIN**  
DEVIKA-10-66 UNIVERSITY

**Jhatkaa.org**



**ncbs**  
National Centre for Biological Sciences  
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research



**Rainmatter Foundation**



**SCIENCE GALLERY**

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**TdU**  
INSTITUTE OF TRANSDISCIPLINARY  
HEALTH SCIENCES & TECHNOLOGY



**WCS INDIA**

