Dear Friends,

World Environment Day was established exactly 50 years ago by the United Nations at the Stockholm Declaration, bringing the word "environment" into popular usage for the first time. While there is much debate over the alarmingly slow progress on environmental protection, we would like to celebrate the role of women in environmental preservation on this World Environmental Day, and its impact on the daily lives of their families and communities. This is exemplified by some of our projects below, as all our work is Pro-poor, Pro-environment and Pro-women.

Trees are the poems that earth writes upon the sky
- Kahlil Gibran
To combat the lack of green cover, women and their families in our communities in India and Kenya are improving their public spaces by planting and nurturing native trees. Asia Initiatives has helped plant over 70,000 trees in Uttarakhand, Maharashtra, Bundelkhand, and Odisha in India, and Nairobi in Kenya. We have also partnered with Sankalptaru Foundation for tree planting campaigns which will result in over 4000 trees being geotagged, tracked and nurtured. Our people are also preparing and dispersing seed balls to support reforestation. Trees enhance biodiversity, shade, water retention, and soil health. Please click HERE if you would like to have geotagged trees planted in honor of a loved one or event. For more information about our projects, please click HERE.

Where birds fly, there is hope & healthy ecosystems
In partnership with Mata Balak Utkarsha Pratishthan of Sangola district in Maharashtra India, Asia Initiatives is empowering women through nature-based solutions. The women in our Nutrition Garden project are earning SoCCs by increasing the bird populations in their agroecosystems by building bird perches, a DIY solution for organic pesticides in farmlands.

**Water: a drop in the ocean, the ocean in a drop** - Rumi

Water security is becoming a challenge worldwide due to global warming and climate change. In our small way, we are helping construct rainwater harvesting structures and rejuvenating ponds in all
our projects located in drought-prone areas. This includes our work with our partners SJS in Maharashtra, with Parmarth in Bundelkhand and with Savera Foundation in Jharkhand, where 5000 families are rejuvenating ponds and water harvesting structures that will ensure water for their fields and families. Participants earn SoCCs by providing labor for construction and redeeming SoCCs for education upskilling, construction material, transport expenses and more.

Young SoCCstars embark on careers

SoCCstars from our award-winning Cascade of Learning initiative, Stuti, Rupal, Monika, Megha, Komal, and Fareen have become professional Community Mentors in Lucknow, India. Through our Udaan and Global GLOW projects, Asia Initiatives is empowering young girls through digital skills as also project management and life skills, so that they can launch their careers.

Summer camp for ideas, education and fun!
Over 200 children including adolescent girls in Bhubaneshwar, Pati Sonapur, and Gopalpur on Sea, India are participating in fun-filled Summer Camp activities such as career planning, dancing, and sports. Our partner, VIEWS, through their AI-supported Digital Learning Centers are also holding related activities including food festivals, Little Teacher training, and community fairs where children share of their digital accomplishments with their family and friends. For more information, please click HERE.

More about our work is at our Website and at our YouTube Channel.

The theme of the first anniversary of the World Environmental Day in 1973 was "Only One Earth". Thank you for your help, in various ways, in caring for our Only One Earth,

Geeta Mehta and the Asia Initiatives Team

Click here to get 100% of your donations to our environmental projects
Asia Initiatives has special consultative status with the Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations.

Asia Initiatives has the Platinum Seal of Transparency.

You can support our work by selecting Asia Initiatives from the list of charities while shopping at Amazon, or at your favorite stores via our partner Kiindly.

Asia Initiatives is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that promotes sustainable development for underserved communities, with a particular focus on women and their families.

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