

# Holistic Integrated Eco - friendly Sustainable Development of Vellangallur Panchayat



Sálím Ali Foundation  
Vellagallur Panchayat and People



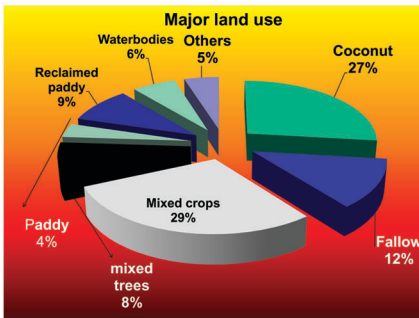
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# Vellangallur Grama Panchayat - Basic information



## Mukundapuram Taluk, Thrissur District, Kerala

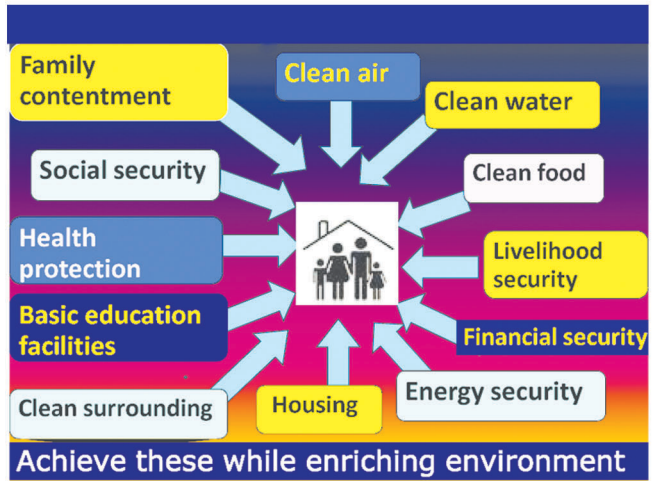


Area: 26.61 sq km  
 Population: 39,332 (2011 Census)  
 Houses: 9,497  
 Schools: 11; Anganwadies: 33  
 Kudumbashrees: 368 (6,544 families).

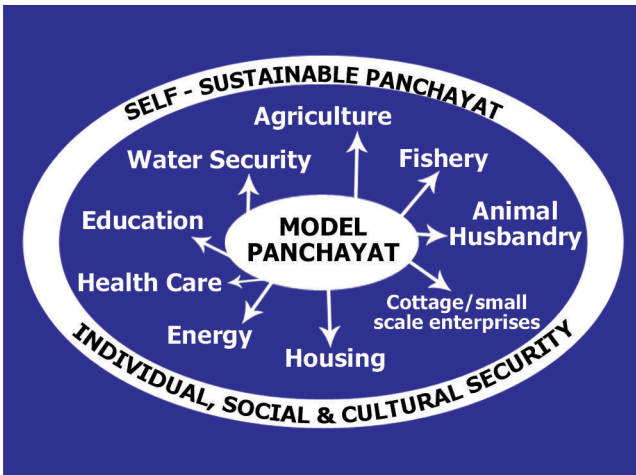


## Vision & Objective : to ensure

Ensure every citizen the basic requirements of life while conserving every inch of paddy lands, wetlands, mangroves, forests and promoting a healthy environment.



## Project Modules



Make the Panchayat self-sustainable to the extent possible, especially for food. Work out the strategies to ensure that every house will have food security in addition to an increase in income. Above all, each individual must enjoy social and cultural security.

## Action Plan

1. Socio-economic survey.
2. Formulation of projects accordingly.
3. Finalization after discussion with neighbourhood housing units (Kudumbakootayma) in each ward-  
Size of each Kudumbakootayma:  
15-20 houses.
4. Explore the possibilities of implementing each sub-project within the existing schemes of the Panchayat.
5. Generate additional funds from the State and Central Government, Public sector undertakings and, committed corporate bodies.
6. Form a committee of residents with experts to monitor the progress of the project.
7. Measure the quantity of pesticides and heavy metals in the soil, sediments, key biodiversity indicators and vegetables at the beginning and every two years of the project.
8. Evaluate the local biodiversity at the beginning and once in every two years.
9. Evaluate the income of each household at the beginning and once in every two years.

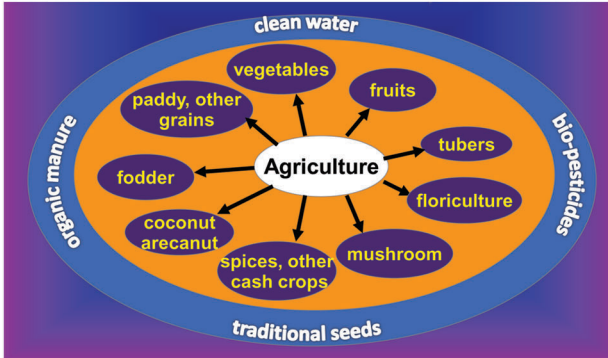
Assess the overall happiness of each family at the beginning and at every two years interval.

Form an Environment Impact Assessment team comprising residents and experts.

## Agriculture

“ Food Crops in every inch of cultivative land”

“Make mother’s milk free of poison”



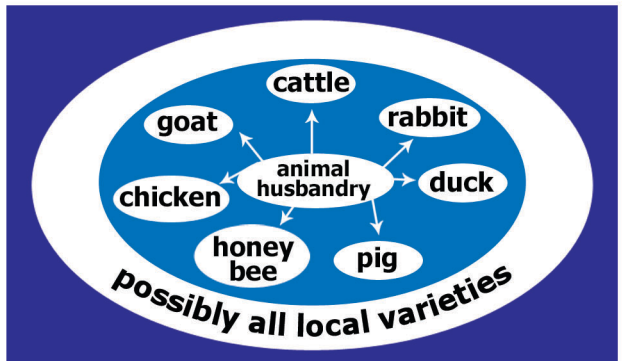
Increase production and productivity in every inch of cultivable land. The entire farming will be of organic and ecological and no chemical pesticides and fertilizers will be used inside the Panchayat. Priority to traditional seeds and make the panchayat a centre for traditional seeds and seedlings; make sure farming a profitable exercise.

## Animal Husbandry

“ Organic manure for agriculture”

“Milk - Meat - Egg”

According to the interest of the individual families encouragement will be given for their choice. Mini dairies will be promoted. Breeding centres for each will be established to ensure meeting the requirements. Local variety will be encouraged. Apart from milk, meat and egg, the dung, urine and other wastes will be used for farming. The wastes will be used as resource and income generating source.

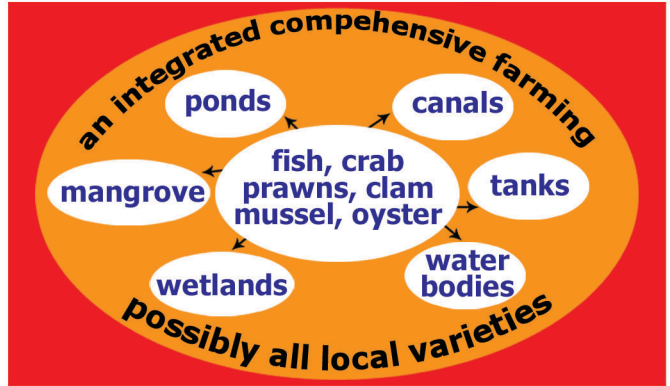


## Fishery

“ Water Security”

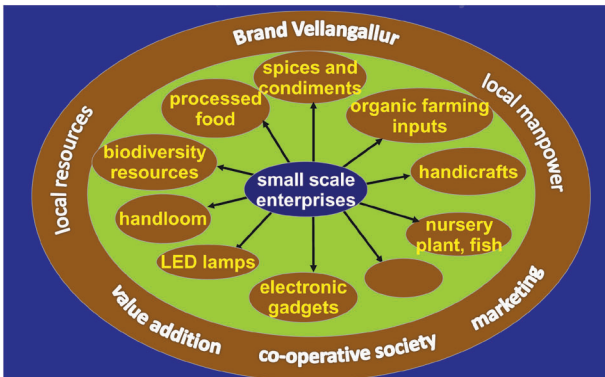
“Another source of nutritive food”

Fish farming in all available water sources; ponds, tanks, canals, lakes and rivers. While they serve as additional sources for protein and income, make sure that the water sources are protected which in turn help water security.



## Cottage / Small Scale Enterprises

“ Livelihood security of each,  
ensuring enviornmental security”



Make sure that every individual gets involved in generating some earning according to the qualification, experience, interest and the health. The project offers facilities and training accordingly and a marketing system ensuring best price for the products. All the activities will be environment friendly and, based on locally available material to the extent possible.

## Cottage / Small Scale Industries



## Industry

**“ Ensure job without destroying environment and ecology”**

**Industries which use local resources, consuming least amount of ground water, without polluting air, water, soil and food. Building to house them would be strictly environment - friendly.**

Promote all kinds of small scale industries preferably using local material without polluting the air, water, food and least exploitation of the ground water.

Reduce urbanization, strengthen family and social security, and avoid migration of villagers to cities.

IT hub in the block level is an experiment for decentralizing the large IT hubs which cause serious environmental and social problems.

## Water Security



Roof water harvesting for each house, recharging pits, restoration of temple ponds, natural and man-made ponds, wells, tanks and canals.

Conservation of paddy fields, wetlands and mangroves and, sacred groves, restoration of catchment areas of wetlands and canals, promotion of social forestry using indigenous species.



## Energy

Totally non - conventional

1. Adopt energy - saving practices
2. Sloor energy in each house
3. Solar energy in all Government institutions, offices, educational institutions, religious and commercial establishments
4. Solar street lamps
5. Bio- gas for street lamps and houses

Reduce use of hydropower by non-conventional sources. Within five years every house should have solar power. All options would be explored to make sure that energy generated with high environmental cost is not used.

## Income through Biodiversity

Medicinal plants have a huge economic potential. Also cultivation of the same in large extent will reduce pressure on forest area for the same. Water dependent cultivation additionally enhances recharge

1. Medicinal Plants (cultivation in homesteads, pond banks etc.)
2. Raw material for handicraft / cottage industries (pandanus, reeds, weeds, fibre.)
3. Lotus cultivation (flower, stem and tuber)
4. Edible wetland plants (greens etc.)

## Housing

“ use of minimum natural resources”

- Introduce a Building Code
- Awareness programme for Eco - Friendly construction
- Minimum use of non - renewable resources (steel, laterite, sand, granite)
- Vertical expansion of house (maximam 3 floors) as the family grows and discourage construction on additional land

Existing and future houses must promote LED lamps, solar lights, roof water harvesting, waste treatment, bio-gas for cooking,

## Health Care

Priority for prevention and precautionary measures. Suspected patients will be sent for detailed check up and once confirmed, treatment will be arranged. Health insurance scheme will be introduced for the needy.

1. Health status survey
2. Blood test: pesticides and heavy metals
3. Free medical camp – ayurveda, homoeo, unani, siddha, naturopathy, allopathy, yoga
4. Balanced diet in anganwadies and schools
5. Health awareness programmes in each ward and schools

## Education

Assess existing facilities and scopes and, formulate appropriate projects based on the views of the housing units.

Familiarize children with activities for livelihood security and nature conservation

Exposure visits for budding farmers  
Nurture individual talents of children

Educational tour focusing biodiversity conservation and sustainable use

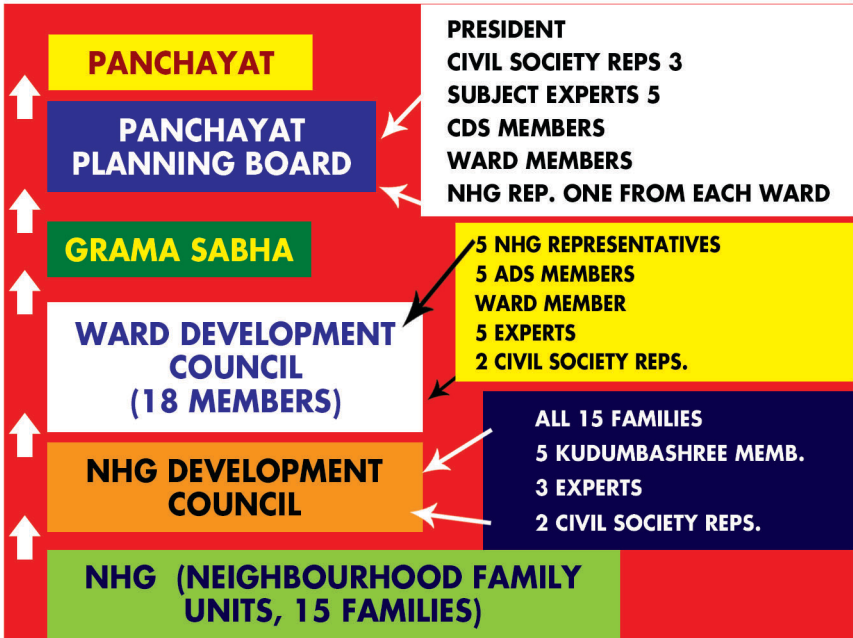
Within the existing system and the available time, including holidays, attempts will be made to train the kids on nature conservation.

## Distinctions from the existing projects of any Panchayats in India

1. The project would be completely environment – friendly
2. Increases the income of each family
3. Creating opportunities for income generation for each individual according to the physical fitness and technical/educational background.
4. Establishment of a healthy marketing strategy so that the individual who toils gets the maximum benefit, avoiding middlemen.
5. Ensuring 100% financial and social security for farmers.
6. Regular health monitoring programme for each person in the panchayat
7. Ensuring adequate organic vegetables for each family from their own home garden and, making it a source of regular income
8. Making each housing unit self reliant on water supply and, reducing the dependence on public water supply to the maximum possible
9. Supervision and evaluation of implementation and success of the project by a team comprising representative of housing units and experts in each ward

## Our Approach

Requirements of each family is assessed and the project is formulated accordingly; a totally democratic way : bottom - up starting from neighbourhood family units through Kudumbashree and Gramasabha to Panchayat.





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