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To  
Edgerve,  
Plot No. 47, Sy. No. 10, Hosur Rd,  
Electronic City, Bengaluru,  
Karnataka 560100

**Subject: Independent Programmatic Evaluation of Infosys Grant (1 report)**

LEAD at Krea University (IFMR) was commissioned in the financial year 2022-23 to undertake programmatic evaluation of Infosys CSR project completed in the financial year 2021-22.

A team of researchers from LEAD has independently carried out the assessment. The aim was to measure the impact created by the CSR investment. To this end, the evaluation team assessed a grantee, who had undertaken a project in the area of sustainability. The financial reports and administrative data for the evaluation was provided by the Foundation and the respective grantee.

The methodology for the assessment included 4 major components:

- Key informant interviews with relevant persons in the grantee organization;
- Project site observation;
- Analysis of data related to project implementation and output shared by the grantee;
- Beneficiary surveys for an understanding of end-user perspective.

The information gathered through all the above methods was collated and the findings were triangulated to assess the impact created by the project.

The impact report presents key information like grant objective, the impact created, end-user satisfaction, SDG-mapping, and ESG-mapping. The programmatic evaluation highlights the contribution made towards achieving their outcomes/objectives as well as identifies areas for improvement.

Best regards  
For LEAD



**Sharon Buteau**  
Executive Director

# Department of Archaeology, Museum, and Heritage, Karnataka

## REJUVENATION OF WATER BODIES

### Introduction

Melukote, one of the prominent pilgrimage sites in Southern India, has several heritage structures, including 108 *kalyanis* or temple tanks. Panchakalyani is the biggest temple tank in this area situated close to another tank called Ganesha Honda. The preservation of these ancient structures comes under the purview of the Department of Archaeology, Museum, and Heritage of the Government of Karnataka.

### Need

The ancient monuments of Panchakalyani and Ganesha Honda tanks were contaminated and silted, and the surrounding structures were in a state of disrepair due to negligence by the public, vandalism, contamination, heavy silt deposition, and lack of maintenance.

### Grant

The objective was to rejuvenate the two water bodies – Panchakalyani and Ganesha Honda, renovate the surrounding structures, construct compound walls, and connect to a rainwater harvesting system. The duration of the project was 3 years (2018 – 2021). The total grant amount is Rs 4 Crores.

### Methodology

- **Key Informant Interviews (KII):** The officials of the Archeology Department and the engineer involved in the restoration work provided the details of project implementation and impact.
- **Site observation:** Observation from the site visit was used to assess the quality and extent of work done through the grant.
- **Secondary data analysis:** Data procured from the Department was analyzed for details related to the project implementation and operations.
- **End-user survey:** A sample of 101 visitors was surveyed to capture their perspective, experience, and satisfaction with the restored heritage site.

### Results

#### Program Execution

- **Relevance of the grant:** The grant has been utilised towards the conservation and preservation of ancient heritage sites, Panchakalyani, Ganesha Honda, and surrounding structures, which hold cultural and historical significance, but had long been in a state of disrepair due to neglect and lack of maintenance.
- **Operational sustainability:** There is no revenue generation due to the lack of visiting fees, however, the maintenance and operational costs of the heritage site are borne by the state government, which lends it operational sustainability.

- **End-users profile:** The Panchakalyani sees a high footfall (Weekdays: 500–1,000 per day, Weekends: 5,000–10,000 per day) of visitors from the nearby temples, who come to perform rituals at the tank. Some tourists also visit as part of a guided tour and for sightseeing. Most visitors are residents of Karnataka who visit at least once a year, usually with family.
- **End-users satisfaction:** <sup>1</sup>



- **Scalability:** Not applicable.

## Main Outcomes

**Quantum of restoration work:** The renovation work includes the following:

- Rejuvenation of the tanks through de-silting and de-watering.
- Renovation of surrounding structures such as the steps, pathways, and cloisters.
- Construction of compound wall and fencing around the heritage monuments, cleaning of feeder canal, and construction of a boundary wall around it.
- Reconstruction of ancient filter chambers and connecting the Panchakalyani to the feeder canal and filter chambers, to ensure rainwater harvesting and filtering of clean water into the Panchakalyani.

**Clean water for the pilgrims:** The rejuvenation of the water bodies and continued supply of clean water through the rainwater harvesting system allows the visitors access to a clean water body, especially during the local festivals that draws thousands of visitors.

**Recharging groundwater:** The geo-morphology and topography of Melukote restricts rainwater from percolating to the water table.<sup>2</sup> With the rejuvenation of the tanks, rainwater can be stored, and thereby recharge groundwater levels.

**Aesthetic and historical importance:** The restoration of the structures has revived their aesthetic and historical importance. As a result, study tours and movie shootings are also held at the Panchakalyani. To further spread awareness about the heritage site, the State Government has also established 'heritage clubs' at the colleges around the city.

**Long-term impact:** The impact on the water bodies is not time-bound. However considering a 10-year lifecycle of the restoration,<sup>3</sup> the investment is estimated to benefit over 92 Lakh visitors. At the current value, every Lakh of the grant money invested will benefit over 23,000 visitors to the heritage site in the lifecycle of the restoration.

## Impact

The grant has successfully rejuvenated the water bodies and restored the surrounding structures without altering their original features. This has revived their cultural and historical significance and brought about a holistic change in the aesthetics and sanitation of the area. The project aligns with the Social and Environment ESG goals and supports the commitment towards SDG 6, SDG 9, and SDG 11.



1 % of visitors who scored 'Average' to Excellent' on a 5-point Likert scale in the end-user surveys.

2 Ramineni, S., & Bharadwaj, M. (2021). Integrated Water Systems in Vernacular Settlements: Temple City of Melukote, Karnataka, India.

3 The Archaeology Department reported that the restoration work shall last 10 years.

This evaluation was conducted by LEAD at Krea University (IFMR).