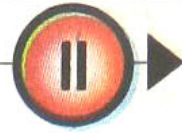


FACEBOOK**KETAKI GHATE AND MANASI KARANDIKAR**

Founders, Oikos for Ecological Services

The thought of working for nature conservation was sown in our mind when we were pursuing our diploma course in 'Sustainable Development of Natural Resources management' (conducted by the Ecological Society, Pune). Since childhood we were passionate about environmental issues and its conservation and Prakash Gole of the Ecological Society motivated us to start our own consultancy. 'Oikos' is a Greek word meaning "home" or "earth", and 'eco' from 'ecology' is derived from 'Oikos'. We believe that development should happen along with conservation. Hence, we provide restoration solutions for any kind of land. It begins with a year round survey of the area, then documenting ecological changes and finally the planning and execution. We basically work on three kinds of projects — Natural Resource Management, Ecological Landscaping and Eco-tourism Destination Development. We also have a nursery for native plants. In the last eight years of our presence, though our work is primarily centred in Maharashtra, we have worked on projects in Goa, Thiruvananthapuram, Indore and Bengaluru.