Get ready for an inspiring journey to the biodiversity hotspot Wayanad for a wide learning experience...
We cordially invite you for an inspiring travel through Wayanad district of Kerala, one of the pristine locations of agrobiodiversity and cultural diversity in the global biodiversity hotspot of Western Ghats.

The BET aims to provide experiential knowledge to those who are interested in culture, attitude and strategies of rural men and women in sustainably managing the agrobiodiversity. The package is included with exposure visits to agricultural landscapes, tribal hamlets, sacred forests, mountain peaks (in association with forest department) and interactive sessions with lead farmers, practitioners and researchers associated with our community biodiversity programme.

BET will take you through the M S Swaminathan Botanical Garden, which houses nearly 2000 flowering plant species, (including rare/endemic/or threatened species of Western Ghats) and Manikunnu Mala, a hillock rich in birds and butterfly diversity. Our experienced field biologists will accompany the participants.

Learning medicinal plant cultivation, primary health care practices, precision farming, organic farming, one cent poly house, mushroom cultivation, vermi composting, bio input production, goat rearing, dairy farming, sustainable water harvesting are also the part of this package. The participants will also be guided to the popular tourist spots of the district like Pookode lake and Banasura Sagar dam.

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**BET Attractions**

- Four day programme
- Field/Exposure visits
- Tribal Hamlet visits
- Interaction with farmers
- Hiking
- Sacred Grove visits
- Botanic Garden visit
- Butterfly & Bird watching
- Forest tree and Medicinal Plants identification
- Knowledge sharing and discussions
- Practical training (Mushroom cultivation, budding grafting, bioinput production, ‘jeevamrutham’ etc)
- Dormitory accommodation in serene biodiversity rich campus
- Malabar/Wayanad special Food
The M S Swaminathan Research Foundation (MS-SRF) campus sprawling across 42 acres, is rich in biodiversity. The M S Swaminathan Botanical Garden (MSSBG) that spreads over 20 acres of land is home to diverse species of rare medicinal plants, trees, climbers, shrubs, ferns, orchids, wild relatives of crops, food plants etc.

Butterfly Garden

Three largest butterflies reported from India namely Southern Birdwing, Blue Mormon, and Red Helen can be spotted in the botanical garden.

RET Plants Conservatory

The RET conservatory has 112 tree species which include many RED data book species

- Orientation on nursery techniques
- Orientation on medicinal plants
- Visit to M S Swaminathan Botanical Garden
- Butterfly diversity
- RET plant conservatory
- Mushroom cultivation
- Bio input production
The second day starts with a visit to the Farm School run by a progressive farmer, followed by the farm of a young farmer-entrepreneur and an organic farmer at Pozhuthana. Knowledge in best farming practices, cattle rearing techniques, farm management techniques can be gained from these resourceful farmers. The day ends with a visit to the famous Pookode Lake.

- Exposure visit to Farm School
- Dairy farming
- Poultry farming
- Vegetable cultivation
- Understanding zero budget farming
- Coffee, pepper, cardamom plantations
- Agrobiodiversity
- Zero budget farming
- Open precision farming
- Herbal health practices
- Pookode lake (Tourist place)
The third day starts with a visit to a vegetable farm, inland fish farm, cardamom plantation, paddy fields, etc. Interactions with expert farmers will shed light on techniques involved in inland fish farming, best practices in cardamom cultivation, paddy cultivation, etc. The day ends with a trip to Banasura Sagar dam.

- Organic vegetable farming
- Small scale Cardamom cultivation
- Paddy cultivation (Traditional rice varieties)
- Inland fish farm
- Banasugara Sagar dam (Tourist place)
The fourth day includes interactions with farmers who are specialised in new farming practices such as precision farming, one cent poly house, Api culture etc.

- Open precision farming
- Water harvesting
- One cent poly house
- Mushroom cultivation
- Organic medicine preparation
- Pepper nursery
- Fruit tree farm
- Api culture

BET combines experiential learning in both traditional knowledge and scientific intervention in farming and agriculture to provide you enough exposure to the bests of traditional and modern farming practices. The unique knowledge you gain in biodiversity and farming practices through BET will enable you to better understand significance of biodiversity management and sustainable agriculture.

For more information please contact: