

Curriculum Vitae
Seema Purushothaman
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I Domains

II Engagements

III Doctoral supervision

IV Qualifications, tools and methods

V Communications and publications

I Domains

Domains of Expertise

- Environmental and Ecological Economics, Sustainable Development, Adaptive skilling
- Analysis, Advocacy, Teaching, Interventions in Policies and Governance across Forests, Rural commons, Indigenous people, Agriculture, Family farms, Environment.

II Engagements

Designing and teaching

- Agrarian concerns, Food security and Sustainability in modern India
- Economics and Sustainability
- Education for a sustainable society
- Ecology and Development in India
- Sustainability an interdisciplinary Exploration
- Sustainability in Planning and Practice

Short courses for Local Self Governments:

- Agro-ecology and rural livelihoods (Kannada – offered in the Kalyana Karnataka region)
- Overcoming the challenges in implementing Forest Rights Act (in Malayalam – offered to tribal communities, through Kerala Institute for Local Administration, KILA, Govt. of Kerala)

Trainings:

Co-designing and training the module on Decision making tools and enabling factors in the global course on Land Restoration for Sustainable Agriculture by G20 Land Initiative of UNCCD

<https://g20land.org/trigger-change/>

Development Practice

2018- 2024:

Facilitating the implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 in Kerala: conducting case studies, workshops, trainings and certificate course (in collaboration with Kerala Institute of Local Administration)

2018-2021: Adaptive Skilling through Action Research in the tribal villages of Central India

2022 to 2025: Community Engagement Initiative of Azim Premji University among the farmers of Sarjapura

Ongoing Studies:

Impact of Urban Consumption on peri-urban agroecology and farm livelihoods around Bengaluru (2021 to 2024) – funded by the Ministry of Science & Technology (Govt. of India, under Indo-German scientific collaboration).

Social production of Rurban space around Bengaluru – collaborative research with University of Gottingen, Germany

Recently completed:

Adaptive Skilling through Action Research in the tribal villages of Central India <https://www.pradan.net/sampark/adaptive-skilling-through-action-research-asar/>

III Doctoral Supervision and Review

i) Forest Research Institute, Dehradun.

Co-supervisor - doctoral student (degree awarded in 2011) - Interdisciplinary study of Ficus agroforestry systems in Mandya, Southern Karnataka.

ii) ATREE – Manipal Academy

Co-supervisor in interdisciplinary advisory committees of four completed doctoral students

from 2010 to 2019, covering topics:

- Reshaping neighbourhood parks for biodiversity and people: A study on pocket green spaces in Bengaluru, India
- Forest cover, hunting and animal abundances across state and community forests of Meghalaya, India

iii) Member, Doctoral Advisory Committee of three students registered at ATREE Manipal program. Topics include a) how development and restoration unfolded in a tribal region of Kerala b) how adivasi perception of ecosystem is changing in the context of various interventions in two regions of Karnataka and Tamilnadu

External reviewer and examiner of PhD thesis (Centre for Development Studies Thiruvananthapuram, National Institute of Advanced Studies Bangalore, Ambedkar University Delhi, University of Hyderabad), Amrita University, Manipal University

- Ecosystem services and goods provisioned by fragmented forest landscape in a matrix of orange orchards in Sikkim Himalayas, India
- Consequences of urban demand on pollination service and livelihoods of the reliant communities: A study in the peri-urban landscapes of Bangalore
- Environment -Development dynamics of policies in the tribal landscape of Attapady

IV Key Qualifications

	Year	Core subjects	University
Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (B.Sc) Ag	1986	Agronomy, horticulture, pathology, entomology, soil and biochemistry, economics, sociology, statistics, and extension.	Kerala Agricultural University
Master of Science in Agricultural Economics (M.Sc) Ag. Econ	1988	Agricultural Economics, Statistics, Computer Programming (Dissertation: <i>Impact of a cement factory on farm economy in its surroundings</i>)	Kerala Agricultural University
Master of Science in Environmental Economics (M.Sc)	1992	Environmental and Natural Resource Economics (Dissertation: <i>Economic valuation of pharmaceutical worth of tropical forests</i>)	University College London
Doctor of Philosophy in Forest Management (Ph.D)	2003	Forest Management and Economics (Doctoral thesis <i>Land use dynamics in the marginal lands of indigenous communities inhabiting forest peripheries of Western Ghats</i>)	Forest Research Institute, Dehradun

Tools and Methods: System of National Accounting, Policy Evaluation, Social Cost Benefit Analysis, Multi Criteria Methods, Inclusive Impact Assessments, Longitudinal village/ community studies.

V Networks and Collaborations

- University of Gottingen, Kassel
- Hongkong Baptist University
- G20 land Initiative, UNCCD
- Indian Society for Ecological Economics
- International Society for Ecological Economics
- Global Alliance for Inter- and Transdisciplinarity
- Network for Rural and Agrarian Studies
- BRICS Initiative for Critical Agrarian Studies

VI Communications and Publications

- **Blog and blog posts**

[Small Farm Dynamics in India](#)

<https://www.ideasforindia.in/topics/agriculture/exploring-urban-perceptions-around-freshness-of-vegetables.html>

<https://i2insights.org/2022/10/18/adaptive-skilling/>

<https://i2insights.org/2022/08/09/crossdisciplinarity-in-india-and-brazil/>

Books

- Purushothaman, S., & Patil, S. (2019). *Agrarian change and Urbanization in Southern India*. Springer Nature, Singapore. https://azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in/SitePages/pdf/Purushothaman_Patil_2019_City_the_Peasant.pdf
- Purushothaman, S., & Abraham, R. (Ed.). (2013). *Livelihood Strategies in Southern India — Conservation and Poverty Reduction in Forest Fringes*. Springer, New Delhi, India. ([Flyer](#))
- **Videos**
- Azim Premji University.(2021, March 17). *Green carpet or green desert?* [Video].Youtube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SKc-sHbl21w>

- Azim Premji University (2021, September). *Growing Cities and Shrinking Agriculture*. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A7mrepdqeUI>
- **Journal articles**
- Bursztyn, M., & Purushothaman, S. (2022). Interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary scholarship for a civilisation in distress: Questions for and from the Global South, *Global Social Challenges Journal*, 1(1), 94 – 114. <https://doi.org/10.1332/LBEQ6699>
- Purushothaman, Vidya,S and Dhanush,V. 2022. Agroecological Impacts of Urban Demand for Fresh Vegetables: Preliminary Insights from Exploratory Surveys in Bengaluru.*Ecology, Economy and Society – the INSEE Journal* 5 (2): 107 – 117.
- Purushothaman, S. (2019). Sustainability: challenges in teaching. *Ecology, Economy and Society – the INSEE journal*. 2(2),33 – 36. <https://doi.org/10.37773/ees.v2i2.73> (PDF)
- Purushothaman,S. (2019). The science and economics of family farms. *Guest editorial. Current Science*. 117 (11), 1763 – 1764.(PDF)
- Patil, S., Dhanya, B., Vanjari, R S.,& Purushothaman,S. (2018). Urbanisation and New Agroecologies — The story of Bengaluru’s Peripheries. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 53(41), 71 – 77. (PDF)
- Purushothaman, S., & Patil,S. (2017). Regional Economies and Small Farmers in Karnataka. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 52(46), 78 – 84. (PDF)
- Purushothaman, S., et al (2016). Sustainability in Higher Education for the Global South: A Conversation across Geographies and Disciplines. *Sustainability in Debate*, 7(1), 156 –173. (PDF)
- Dhanya, B., Satish, B.N., Viswanath, S., & Purushothaman,S. (2014). Ecosystem services of native trees: experience from two traditional agroforestry systems in Karnataka, Southern India. *International Journal of Biodiversity Science, Ecosystem Services and Management*, 10(2), 101 – 111.
- Purushothaman, S., Patil, S., Francis, I., Patil, I., & Nesheim,I. (2013). Policy and Governance for sustaining livelihoods and natural resources in small farms — a case study in Karnataka. *Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 68 (2),240 – 257. (PDF)
- Purushothaman, S., Thomas, B.K., Abraham,R., & Dhar,U. (2013). Beyond money metrics: Alternative approaches to conceptualising and assessing ecosystem services. Guest editorial to the INSEE special section. *Conservation and Society* 11(4), 321 – 325. (PDF)
- Konig, H.J., Uthes,S., Schuler, J., Zhen, L., Purushothaman,S., Suarma, U., Sghaier,M., Makokha, S., Helming,K., Sieber,S., Chen,L., Brouwer,F., Morris,J., & Wiggering, H. (2013) Regional impact assessment of land use scenarios in developing countries using the FoPIA approach: Findings from five case studies. *Journal of Environmental*

Management, 127(Suppl.), S56 – S64.

- Dhanya, B., Viswanath, S. & Purushothaman, S. (2013) Crop yield reduction in Ficus agroforestry systems of Karnataka, southern India: Perceptions and realities. *Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems*, 37(6), 727 – 735.
- Dhanya, B., Viswanath, S., & Purushothaman, S. (2012). Ficus trees in rainfed agricultural systems of Karnataka, southern India: An analysis of structure, benefits, and farmers' perceptions. *Journal of Tropical Agriculture*, 50(1 – 2), 59 – 62.
- Purushothaman, S., Patil, S., & Francis, I. (2012). Assessing the impact of policy-driven agricultural practices in Karnataka, India. *Sustainability Science*, 8(2), 173 – 185. doi: 10.1007/s11625-0120188y
- Purushothaman, S., Patil, S., Francis, I., Konig, H.J., Reidsma, P., & Hegde, S. (2012): Participatory impact assessment of agricultural practices using the land use functions framework: case study from India, *International Journal of Biodiversity Science, Ecosystem Services & Management*, 9(1), 2 – 12. doi:10.1080/21513732.2012.721
- Purushothaman, S., Patil, S., & Francis, I. (2012). Impact of policies favouring organic inputs on small farms in Karnataka, India: a multicriteria approach. *Environment, Development and Sustainability*, 14(4), 507 – 527.
- Patil, S., et al. (2012). Comparing conventional and organic agriculture in Karnataka, India: Where and when can organic farming be sustainable? *Land Use Policy*, 37 (40 – 51).
- Purushothaman, S., & Abraham, R. (2011). Scaling up and Sustainability: the experience from rural India. *Sustainability in Debate*. 2(2), 21 – 42. ([PDF](#))
- Reidsma, P., Konig, H., Feng, S., Bezlepina, I., Nesheim, I., Bonin, M., Sghaier, M., Purushothaman, S., Sieber, S., Ittersum, M., & Brouwer, F. (2011). Methods and tools for integrated assessment of land use policies on sustainable development in developing countries. *Land Use Policy*, 28 (3), 604 – 617.
- Viswanath, S., Dhanya, B., Purushothaman, S., & Rathore, S. (2010). Financial viability of sandal based agroforestry practices in southern India. *Indian Journal of Agroforestry*, 12 (2), 14 – 22. ([PDF](#))
- Dhanya, B. Viswanath, S & Purushothaman, S. (2010). Sandal (*Santalum album* L.) conservation in southern India: A review of policies and their impacts. *Journal of Tropical Agriculture*, 48 (1–2), 1 – 10.
- Purushothaman, S & Kashyap, S. (2010). Trends in land use and crop acreages in Karnataka and their repercussions. *Karnataka Journal of Agricultural Sciences*, 23 (2), 330 – 333. ([PDF](#))
- Purushothaman, S., Hegde, S. S., Patil, S., & Kashyap, S. (2009). People's perception on benefits from a protected catchment: A case study of Gundal command in

Karnataka. *Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 64(4), 573 – 584. ([PDF](#))

- Purushothaman, S. (2005). Land-use Strategies for Tribals: A Socio Economic Analysis. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 40(53), 5611 – 5619. ([PDF](#))
- Swaminathan, L.P., & Purushothaman, S.(2000). Forest Conservation, Tourism and Extraction: An Economic Perspective. *Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics* 55(3), 398– 411. ([PDF](#))
- Purushothaman, S., Viswanath, S., & Kunhikkannan, C. (2000). Economic valuation of extractive conservation in a tropical deciduous forest in Madhya Pradesh, India. *Tropical Ecology*, 41(1), 61– 72.
- Purushothaman, S., Viswanath, S., & Mukundan, K. (1997). Economic impact of cement kiln dust on rural agriculture. *Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 51(3), 407 – 411.
- Purushothaman, S., & Viswanath, S. (1993). Protecting biological diversity: An operational model to compare and contrast. *Indian Journal of Tropical Biodiversity*, 1 (2), 161 – 166.
- **Selected articles from periodicals and media**
- [https://www.manoramaonline.com/environment/environment-news/2023/01/14/HYPERLINK "https://www.manoramaonline.com/environment/environment-news/2023/01/14/kerala-refuses-to-learn-from-the-bitter-aftermath-of-recurring-natural-calamities.html" HYPERLINK "https://www.manoramaonline.com/environment/environment-news/2023/01/14/kerala-refuses-to-learn-from-the-bitter-aftermath-of-recurring-natural-calamities.html" HYPERLINK "https://www.manoramaonline.com/environment/environment-news/2023/01/14/kerala-refuses-to-learn-from-the-bitter-aftermath-of-recurring-natural-calamities.html"kerala-refuses-to-learn-from-the-bitter-aftermath-of-recurring-natural-calamities HYPERLINK "https://www.manoramaonline.com/environment/environment-news/2023/01/14/kerala-refuses-to-learn-from-the-bitter-aftermath-of-recurring-natural-calamities.html" HYPERLINK "https://www.manoramaonline.com/environment/environment-news/2023/01/14/kerala-refuses-to-learn-from-the-bitter-aftermath-of-recurring-natural-calamities.html".html](https://www.manoramaonline.com/environment/environment-news/2023/01/14/HYPERLINK \)
- Act on and for tribal agriculture in the forest peripheries
<https://www.mathrubhumi.com/in-depth/features/agriculture-in-forest-area-by-tribals-1.7556366>
- Higher education needed for the 21st century:
<https://www.manoramaonline.com/education/education-news/2022/01/14/azim->

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- Purushothaman, S. (2020, September 26) What is the purpose of education? *Manorama Online*. <https://www.manoramaonline.com/education/horizon/2020/09/26/what-is-the-purpose-of-education.html>
- Purushothaman, S., & Devi, R. (n.d). Complete and Effective Implementation of FRA in Kerala: Strategies and Approaches. *Practice Connect*. Azim Premji University. <https://practiceconnect.azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in/complete-and-effective-implementation-of-fra-in-kerala-strategies-and-approaches/>
- Purushothaman, S., & Patil, S. (2020, August 17). Resilience during the pandemic – lessons from the family farms of Yadgir. *The News Minute*. <https://www.thenewsminute.com/article/resilience-during-pandemic-lessons-family-farms-yadgir-130919>
- Purushothaman, S., Singh, S., & Patil, S. (2020, September 5). Tackling Covid: Overcoming pandemic despair. *Financial Express*. <https://www.financialexpress.com/opinion/tackling-covid-overcoming-pandemic-despair/2075285/>
- Purushothaman, S., Patil, S., & Shwetha, A.R (2019). Agriculture and Urbanisation in Karnataka (Karnatakadalli krushi mathu nagarikarana). *Yojana*, 5(35). 29 – 33. (PDF)
- Dhanya, B., Viswanath, S., Purushothaman, S., & Suneeta, B. (2010). Ficus trees as components of rainfed agrarian systems in Mandya district of Karnataka. *My Forest*, 46 (2), 161 – 165. (PDF)
- Krishnan, S., & Purushothaman, S. (2008). Value of Deforestation? *Down To Earth*, 17(6), 52 – 53.
- Purushothaman, S., & Dharmarajan, P. (2005). Upland paddies, foliage hillocks and multi-storeyed horticulture: an ecologically sustainable agro-ecosystem. *APANews*. FAO, 27(11 – 13).
- Purushothaman, S., & Hegde, S. (2010, February 2). Forest and farms- a thankless delink. *Spectrum*. *Deccan Herald*.
- Purushothaman, S. (2010, January 16). Fringe benefits taxed. *Down to Earth*, 18(17), 52 – 53. (PDF)
- Phalkey, N., & Purushothaman, S. (2010, February 15). The tourist does leave a footprint. *Down to Earth*.
- **Working papers and policy briefs**
- “Inequality and Climate Change in Karnataka”. Human Development Report (Karnataka) 2022. Chapter 9. P362-399. <https://planning.karnataka.gov.in/storage/pdf-files/Reports/HumanDevelopmentReport-2022FullBook.pdf>
- Seema Purushothaman, Sheetal Patil, Parijat Ghosh, Dibyendu Chaudhuri, Amit Kumar Singh, Bibhubanta Barad, Saurabh Singh, Jostine A and Mahendra Kumar Singh (2022). *Towards a New Development Equilibrium among the Forest Dependent Adivasis*

- of Central India — A Case for Agrarian Adaptive Skilling* (APU Working Paper No.25)
<https://azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in/publications/2022/working-paper-series/towards-a-new-development-equilibrium-among-the-forest-dependent-advocates-of-central-india-a-case-for-agrarian-adaptive-skilling>
- Purushothaman and Vanjari.2022. *One Part Farmers: Villages two decades after land acquisition for the Bengaluru International Airport*. Working Paper 23. Azim Premji University. Bangalore. <https://azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in/publications/2022/article/working-paper-series-one-part-farmers-villages-two-decades-after-land-acquisition-for-the-bengaluru-international-airport>
 - Purushothaman, S., Patil,S., Raghvendra, S., Vanjari, R.S., & Shwetha, A. R. (2021). *Urban Wastewater for Agriculture: Farmers’ Perspectives from Peri-urban Bengaluru* ([Working Paper No. 20](#)), Azim Premji University.
 - Purushothaman, S, Patil, S., & Lodha, S. (2016). *Social and Environmental Transformation in the Indian Peri-Urban Interface — Emerging Questions*. (Working Paper No. 1). Azim Premji University. ([PDF](#))
 - Lele, S., Kashyap, S., & Purushothaman, S. (2008). *Status paper on the Common lands in Karnataka* [submitted to the parliamentary subcommittee on land reforms]
 - Nesheim, I., D. McNeill, F. Brouwer, P. Reidsma, H. Konig, R. Verburg, J. Imbernon, M. Bonin, Y. Cisse, L. Gcahimbi, M. Sghaier, S. Feng, S. Purushothaman, M. W. T. Estuning, S. Rodrigues, and M. Bursztyn, (2008a). Integrative Policy Brief from LUPIS project, EU 6th Framework Programme, www.lupis.eu.
 - Nesheim, I., D. McNeill, F. Brouwer, P. Reidsma, H. Konig, R. Verburg, J. Imbernon, M. Bonin, S. Feng, S. Purushothaman, and M. W. T. Estuning, (2008b). Regional policy brief for Asia. LUPIS project, EU 6th Framework Programme, www.lupis.eu.
 - Purushothaman, S. (2005). *Land-use strategies, economic options and stakeholder preferences: A study of tribal communities in forest peripheries*. (Working Paper 13 – 05), South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE) Kathmandu, Nepal.
 - Purushothaman, S. (2006). *Making Tribal Land Profitable — A study from the Western Ghats of India*. (Policy Brief 12 – 06), SANDEE. ([PDF](#))
 - Pearce, D.W., & Purushothaman, S.(1992). *Preserving Biological Diversity: The economic value of pharmaceutical plants*. (Discussion Paper), 92 – 27, CSERGE, London.
 - **Chapters in books and published proceedings**
 - Patil, S., & Purushothaman, S. (2020). Landowners as Non-farm Workers: A Case of Small Farmer Migrants in Karnataka. In Mishra,D.K., & Nayak,P. (Ed.), *Land and Livelihoods in Neoliberal India* (pp. 85 – 102).Palgrave Macmillan, Singapore.
 - Patil, S., & Purushothaman,S. (2018) Methods for Integrated Sustainability Assessment:

- The Case of Smallholder Farming in Karnataka, South India. In Brinkman, R., & Garren, S. (Ed.), *The Palgrave Handbook of Sustainability: Case Studies and Practical Solutions* (pp. 261 – 281). Palgrave MacMillan.
- Purushothaman, S., Abraham, R., & Patil, S. (2013). Tropical farms as social-ecological systems: Tools for assessment. In Christinck, A., & Padmanabhan, M. (Ed.), *Cultivate Diversity! A Hand Book on Transdisciplinary Approaches to Agro Biodiversity Research* (pp. 163 – 183). Margraf publishers. Welkersheim, Germany.
 - Purushothaman, S., Patil, S., & Kashyap, S. (2012) Agrarian crisis and policy links: a framework for Karnataka, India. In Floor, B., Mc Neil, D., & Nishiem, I. (Ed.), *Land Use Policies for Sustainable Development: Exploring Integrated Assessment Tools* (pp 167 – 189). Edward Elgar Publishing, Cheltenham.
 - Muriel, B., Coudel, E., Cisse, Y., Feng, S., Ounalli, N., Purushothaman, S., Rodrigues F. S., Sghaier, M., Tonneau, J.P., & Xiaoping, S. (2012) Comparing land use policies in emerging and developing countries. In Floor, B., Mc Neil, D., & Nishiem, I. (Ed.), *Land Use Policies for Sustainable Development: Exploring Integrated Assessment Tools* (pp. 248 – 282). Edward Elgar Publishing, Cheltenham.
 - Purushothaman, S. (2012). “Evaluating the Green Revolution” In Jacquet, P., Pachauri, R.K., & Tubiana, L. (Ed.), *Development, the Environment and Food: Towards Agricultural Change?* (pp. 164 – 166) TERI Press, New Delhi. ([PDF](#))
 - Kumar, A., Arvind, N.A., Shaanker, R. U., Ganeshaiah, K.N., Purushothaman, S., & Kashyap, S. (2009). Herbal exports from India- Trends and implications. In Shaanker, R.U., Hiremath, A., Joseph, C. G., & Rai, N. (Ed.), *Non-Timber Forest Produce- Conservation, Policies and Management in the tropics* (pp: 129 – 138). ATREE and UAS. .
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 - Purushothaman, S., Jojo, T.D., & Patil, S. (2007). Ecotourism Policy: A framework for India. In Radhakrishna, G. (Ed.), *Tourism: Perspectives and Issues* (pp. 51 – 78). ICFAI press, Hyderabad.
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- Pearce, D.W., & Purushothaman, S.(1992). Protecting Biological Diversity: The economic value of pharmaceutical plants. In Swanson, J. (Ed.), *Biodiversity and Botany: the values of medicinal plants* (pp.127 – 138). CUP.U.K ([PDF](#))