



## Quarterly Newsletter 2: 2022

Welcome to our second newsletter! Another three eventful months ended in no time. It included traveling, community engagement, and getting to learn new things from our mentor. Happy reading!

**Europe visit:** At the beginning of April I traveled to Sweden, Denmark, Germany, and Belgium. On this trip I met with different environmental groups and potential donors. In those meetings, we discussed what bon is doing and why restoring food diversity is important. This helped us to build a network for bon and opened doors for partnership opportunities. Meeting some members of the cooperative on this trip was a very enriching experience.



Meeting with Mr. Tobias Petterson from [Framtidsjorden](#)



After presentation about bon at [Uppsala University](#)

**ankur:** Through our first project ankur we are creating three model gardens in our community. The goal of the project is to show our community members that even in a small space a lot of food can be grown. In the first phase (from February to June) we were experimenting and learning what things we need to consider to create gardens in the local condition. Surviving the scorching heat of 40 degrees Celsius our garden managed to produce some harvest. In the second phase (June to mid-July) we are analyzing our learning and planning the garden beds based on the permaculture principles. In the third and last phase, we will be focusing on production and engaging community members.



Harvest (talinum, pumpkin, chili, ivy gourd, eggplant, okra) from one of our model



Mr. Ashwini Roy with his freshly grown elephant Task Okra

**Our new mentors:** During my regular visit to the village open market, I was very happy to meet a local vegetable producer. His wife (Mrs. Snehalata Bhanja) and he (Mr. Parameswar Bhanja) are growing vegetables and different other greens for over three decades now. Their method is not always completely organic as they use pesticides. However, it is evident that they have a huge knowledge of gardening. More importantly, they are very passionate about this. They are the only family we have found in the vicinity that is producing and selling vegetables successfully for this long period of time. In my frequent visit to this family, we are learning a lot about growing food and strategies that might work to involve other community members in our mission.



Our mentors in their garden with their grandson during an interactive discussion.



Garden of our mentor with varieties of amaranth, bottle gourd, Malabar spinach

**New member:** We are elated to inform you recently we came across a family in the village who showed interest in our work. After a detailed discussion, they were kin to join us to create a model garden. So now we will have four model gardens.

**Announcements:**

- After a lot of bureaucratic struggles bon finally has a bank account now. If you kindly wish to donate to implement our projects you can find the details [here](#).
- Recently we have done our 12 A and 80 G registration as well.
- bon's first month's journey was featured in kanthari blog: [Dare to start](#)

*Dear fellow earthlings,*

*Our world is in a deep ecological crisis right now. bon is trying to address this issue by working with communities and other similar initiatives to create gardens that produce diverse food in any available space. There is a long road ahead before we can settle. We would like to have you with us on this journey. Please [reach out](#) to us with any suggestions or queries you have.*

*You can help us to spread the word about bon by sharing this newsletter or our [website](#) in your network. Stay healthy, stay safe!*

*Biman*