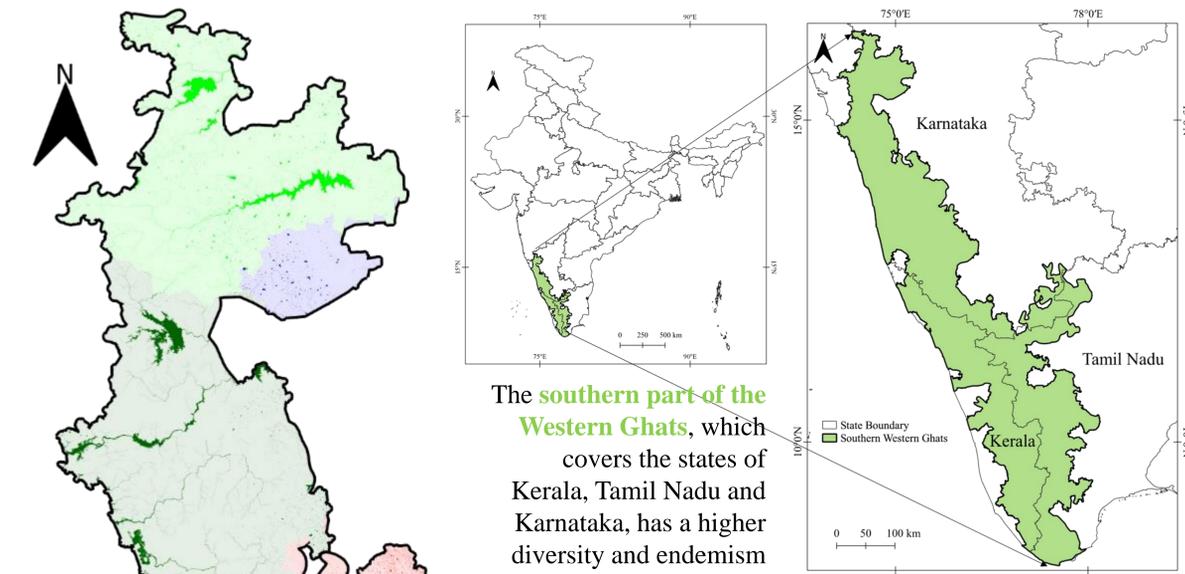


# Valuation of Wetland Ecosystem Services in Southern Western Ghats

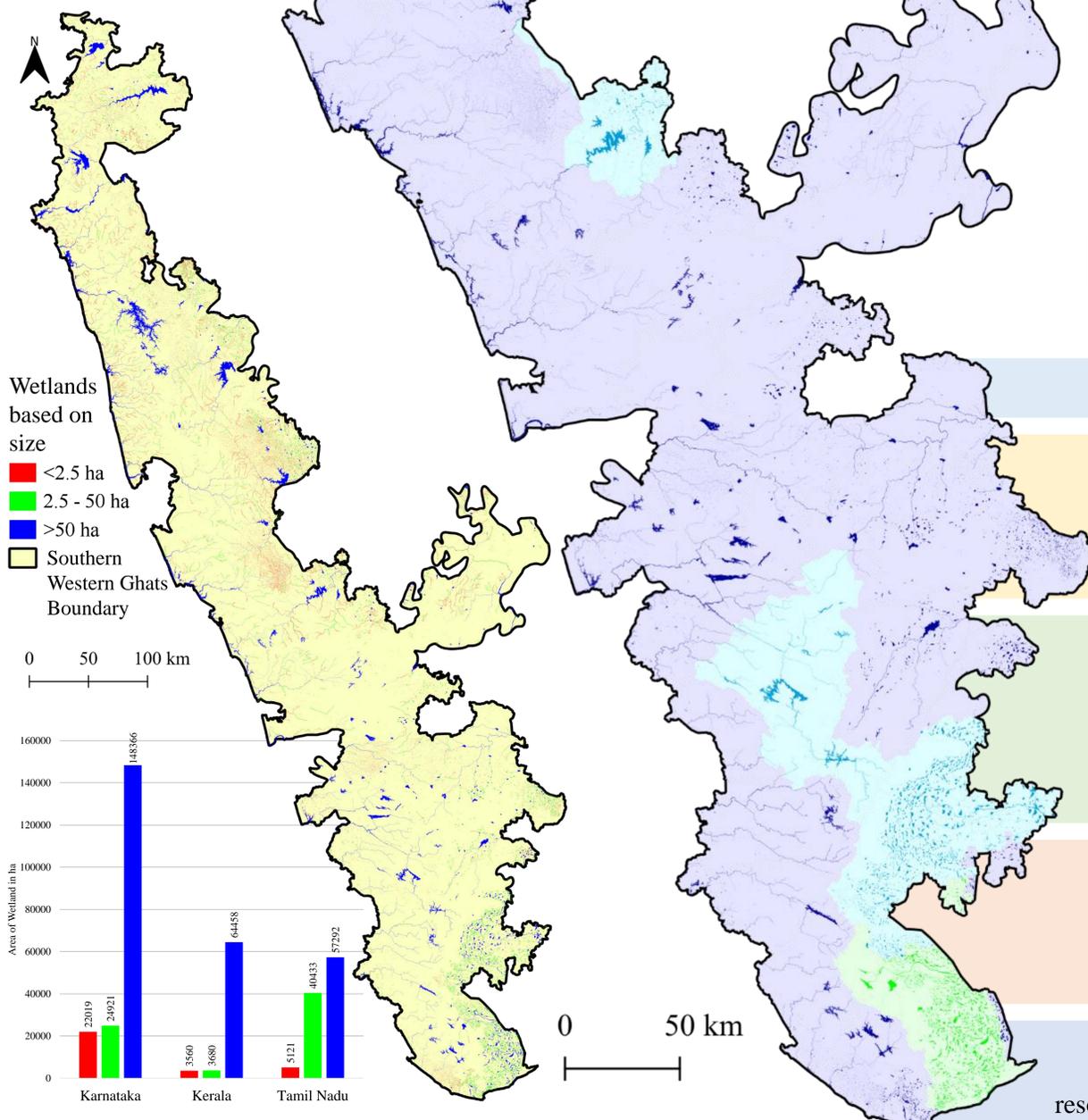
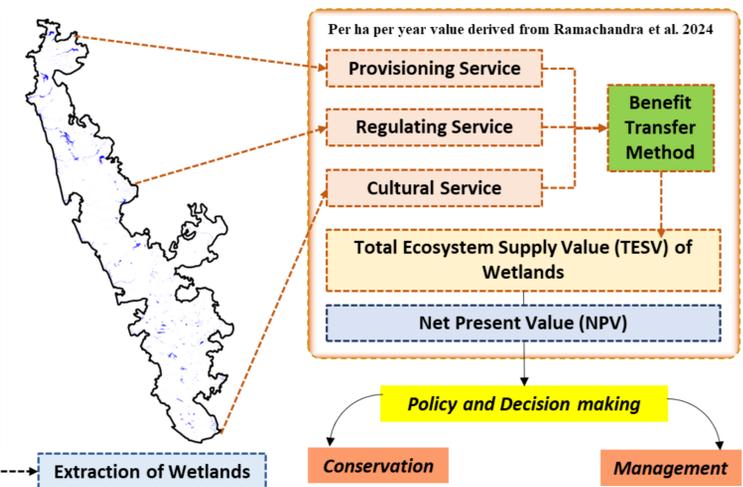
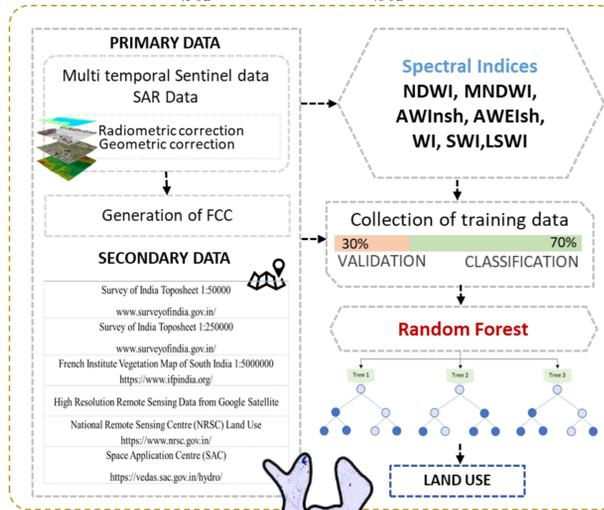
Tulika Mondal and TV Ramachandra

Energy and Wetland Research Group [EWRG], CES TE-15, Indian Institute of Science  
 envis.ces@iisc.ac.in, tvr@iisc.ac.in



Wetlands play a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance and providing numerous ecosystem services. **Ecosystem services** are the contributions of ecosystems to the benefits that are used in economic and other human activities incorporating direct physical consumption, passive enjoyment, and indirect receipt of services.

Provisioning Services	Regulating Services	Cultural Services
ecosystem services representing the contributions to benefits that are extracted or harvested from ecosystems	ecosystem services resulting from the ability of ecosystems to regulate biological processes and to influence climate, hydrological and biochemical cycles, and thereby maintain environmental conditions beneficial to individuals and society	experiential and intangible services related to the perceived or actual qualities of ecosystems whose existence and functioning contributes to a range of cultural benefits.
food, microalgae, macrophyte, fish, water, raw materials, genetic resources, medicinal resources, ornamental resources, fuelwood, irrigation	air quality regulation, climate regulation, moderation of extreme events, regulation of water flows, waste treatment, erosion prevention, maintenance of soil fertility, biological control, maintenance of life cycles of migratory species, maintenance of genetic diversity, carbon sequestration, water-borne diseases, pollination, water conservation, flood control, habitat, groundwater recharge	aesthetic information, opportunities for recreation and tourism, inspiration for culture art and design, spiritual experience, information for cognitive development, existence and bequest values, education



	State	Karnataka	Kerala	Tamil Nadu	Total
Area	sq. km	1953.06	716.97	1028.45	3698.49
	%	52.81	19.39	27.81	100.00
Provisioning Service	Billion Rs. Per year	35.16	12.91	18.51	66.57
Regulating Service	Billion Rs. Per year	136.71	50.19	71.99	258.89
Cultural Service	Billion Rs. Per year	25.39	9.32	13.37	48.08
<b>TESV</b>	<b>Billion Rs. Per year 373.55</b>				

Wetland covers 3898.49 sq. km of Southern Western Ghats.

The total annual ecosystem services of the Southern Western Ghats wetlands are valued at 373.55 billion rupees, with a net present value (NPV) of 9611.35 billion rupees.

Karnataka part of WG shares highest amount of share (52.81%) of ecosystem service with 716.97 sq. km of wetland in Western Ghats Section which provides 197.26 billion Rs. TESSV, followed by Tamil Nadu (27.81%), Kerala (19.39%).

Among all the Southern Western Ghats districts, Shivamogga in Karnataka has the highest TESSV, followed by Uttara Kannada (KA), Belagavi (KA), and Tirunelveli (TN).

This information will help to prioritize wetland protection, allocate resources effectively, and promote sustainable development in the region.