

Coastal ECOsystem HEALTH report card (ECOHEALTH)

The Environmental Health Report Card synthesizes the scientific information and converts it to an image-rich format that is easily accessible to a wide audience. Apart from enabling easier means of communicating science, report cards also tend to be means of powerful human motivator: creating peer pressure (among civic leaders and local community). These Environmental Health Report Cards have been used to catalyze improvements in ecosystem health, guide restoration efforts, and stimulate relevant research.

The aim of the EcoHealth program is to provide an integrated approach to ecosystem health of the Indian environment. The EcoHealth will determine the health of the ecosystem by using a number of physical, chemical and biological indicators. The combination of coastal waters and health indicators that identify the short-term (water chemistry), intermediate term (zooplankton, macro-invertebrates), and long term responses (fish and riparian vegetation) provide a robust program for quantifying coastal ecosystem health and prioritizing management actions. Scientifically robust, quality assured data, generated by EcoHealth would give a complete picture of the current state of our coastal waters. The information generated thus allows local government, policy makers and other natural resource managers to better manage the ecosystems and evaluate natural resource management activities for their effectiveness.

Below map showing the Indian coastal ecosystems aimed for preparation of Health report card



Ecosystem Health report card: Chilika Lake 2012