

ALIVELIHOODS
&
ALTERNATIVES
IN A WORLD OF
C R I S E S



*In a world tangled in crises, it's easy to feel overwhelmed, disconnected, or unsure of where you belong. **But what if this chaos is also an invitation?***

2026 JULY 9-12

TIMBAKTU,

CHENNEKOTHAPALLI, ANDHRA PRADESH

www.travellersuniversity.org/aaiawoc

Are you driven to create meaningful change in a world grappling with intersecting crises? Do you question whether justice, sustainability, and fulfillment are truly possible—or dismissed as utopian dreams? Today's societal frameworks often leave us disillusioned, funneling us into systems that prioritise extraction over equity, consumption over connection, and survival over purpose. **From ecological collapse and entrenched inequality to hollow education and fractured relationships, our challenges are interconnected, urgent, and deeply personal.**

Yet, what if alternatives exist? What if we can reimagine livelihoods that nourish both people and the planet, or redesign systems that harmonise technology with ecological balance? How might we cultivate learning that fosters critical thinkers, not just job-seekers, or relationships rooted in empathy rather than conflict? The post-industrial era has amplified these dilemmas, trapping even the privileged in cycles of materialism and existential emptiness.

But the hunger for solutions grows louder.

ALIVELIHOODS
&
SEILVNHEITV
IN A WORLD OF
C R I S E S



2026 JULY 9-12 | TIMBAKTU

This workshop, “Alivelihoods & Alternatives in a World of Crises,” invites you to **explore pathways beyond despair**. Together, we will dissect the metacrisis—the tangled web of global emergencies—and envision alivelihoods that sustain individuals, communities, and ecosystems. We will critique exploitative models and map alternatives grounded in justice and regeneration. Through introspection inspired by The Hero’s Journey and collaborative design, you will craft a personal learning journey that aligns with your enquiry and values.

Join us to confront hard questions, rediscover agency, and co-create a future where meaning and sustainability are not ideals—but lived realities. **Let us move from “what is” to “what could be.”**

Apply here:

<https://www.travellersuniversity.org/aaiawoc>



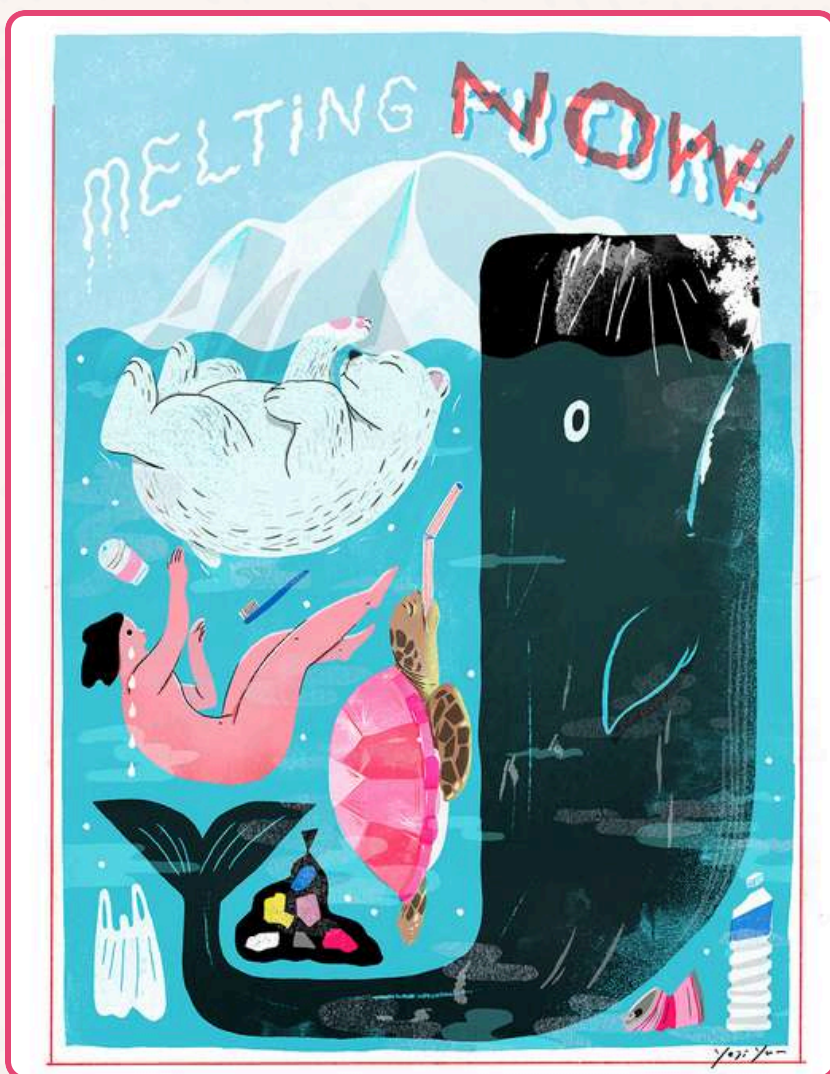
ALIVELIHOODS
&
SEALIVNELTV
IN A WORLD OF
C R I S E S



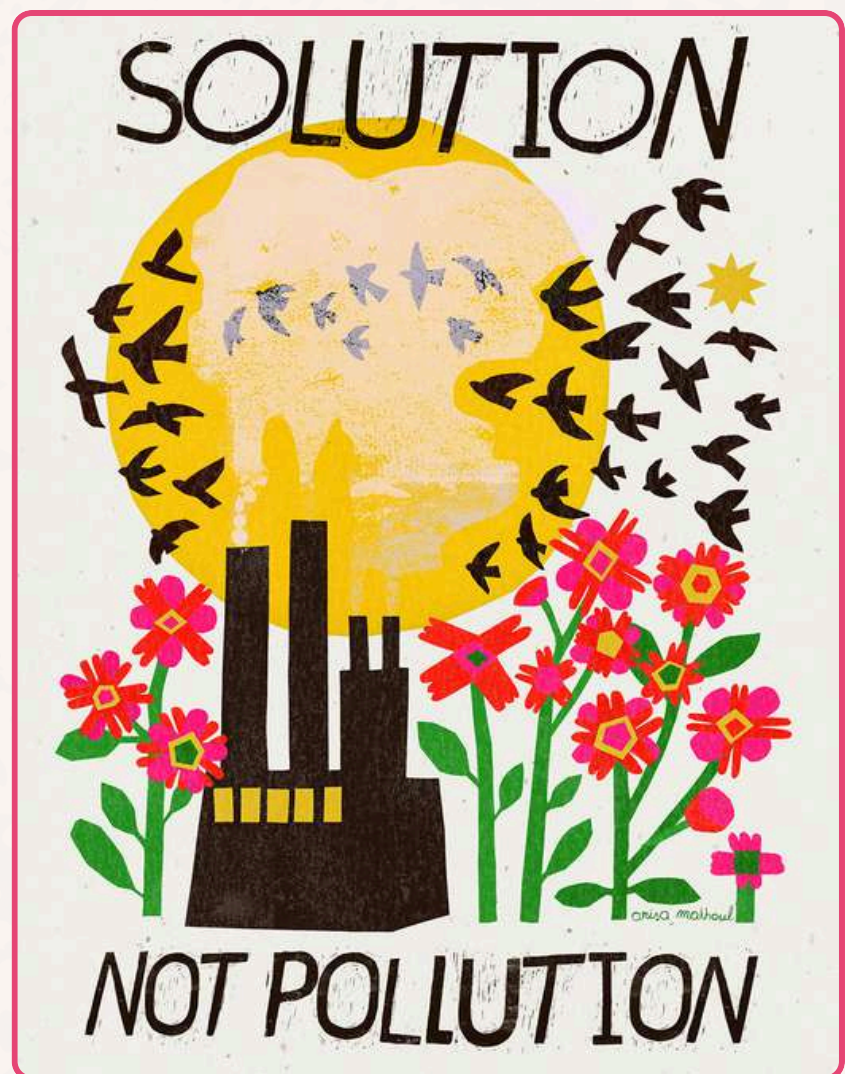
2026 JULY 9-12 | TIMBAKTU

Highlights of the workshop

- Understand "**Metacrisis**", the interconnected nature of overlapping global crises.
- Explore "**Alivelihoods**", livelihoods centered on nurturing the self, community, and Earth.
- Discuss "**Alternatives**" to dominant exploitative and extractive economic systems.
- Apply "**The Hero's Journey**" as a framework for introspection on personal and collective paths.
- Design your "**Personalised Learning Journey**" to align growth with values and purpose.



Art by Yeji Yun



Art by Anisa Makhoul

Who is the workshop for? It is for those who are:

- **Seeking purpose**, who feel societal structures fail to connect ideals with actionable change.
- **Questioning systemic issues** like exploitation, inequality, and ecological imbalance.
- **Rethinking education**, whether it should focus solely on job preparation or also nurture critical and compassionate thinking.
- **Exploring work-life balance**, harmonising material needs with emotional well-being.
- **Curious about global metacrisis** and reimagining systems beyond extraction.
- **Passionate about crafting livelihoods** that nourish both people and the planet.
- **Interested in holistic alternatives** integrating personal, social, and ecological wellbeing.
- **Ready to design personal journeys** toward meaningful, actionable change.



ALIVELIHOODS
&
SEAILNHEITV
IN A WORLD OF
C R I S E S



2026 JULY 9-12 | TIMBAKTU

About the Host

At **Travellers' University**, we empower learners to delve into the intricate relationships between themselves, the interconnected systems they inhabit, and the rest of nature. Our mission is to broaden perspectives and deepen awareness, guiding learners to recognise their role within a dynamic, interdependent planet.

We immerse our community in a pluriverse of coexisting realities—diverse worldviews, cultures, and ecological wisdom—sparking curiosity and challenging assumptions. Through experiential programmes, learners engage with transformative knowledge and cross-disciplinary tools, nurturing critical thinking and reflection. At Travellers' University, education is not just a journey. It is a catalyst for reimagining and reshaping our shared futures.



About the Facilitators

Ashik Krishnan is an educator, venture socialist, and weaver of people, communities and stories. Ashik is the co-creator of *Travellers' University*, where he designs and facilitates various experiential learning programmes oriented towards imagining an inclusive and just world.

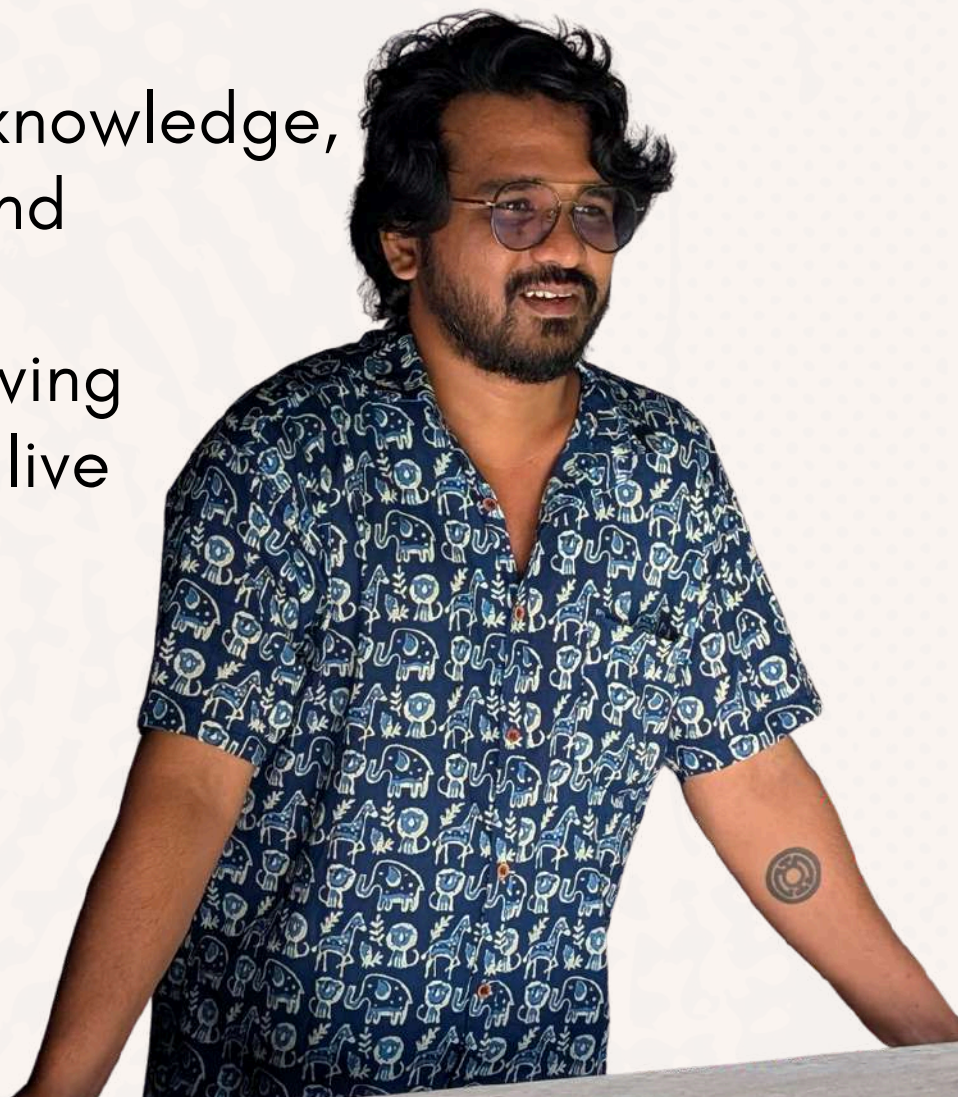
Ashik is also the co-creator of *Learning City Thrissur*, which promotes an active citizenry in Thrissur, Kerala, and of *Keeday*, a micro-solidarity forum for youth working on socio-environmental projects. Ashik is associated with *Vikalp Sangam*, a platform to bring together movements, groups and individuals working on pathways to human and ecological wellbeing.

A proponent of democratising knowledge, he actively works on curation and documentation of knowledge. Working on new ideas and weaving youth networks make him feel alive and present.

ALIVELIHOODS
&
ALTERNATIVES
IN A WORLD OF
CRISES



2026 JULY 9-12 | TIMBAKTU



About the Facilitators

Ashwini Shah is an explorer at heart, guided by curiosity, compassion, and connection. He sees life as a journey of continuous learning, experimentation and transformation. His love for slow, immersive travel has taken him across India, engaging deeply with people, places, and lived wisdom. A seasonal hiker, he finds clarity and renewal in the mountains, where nature, solitude, and reflection come together for him.

He is the Co-creator of *Travellers' University*, where he serves as a Facilitator, Educator, and Mentor, supporting youth in their journeys of self-discovery and community engagement. He anchors programme operations and financial systems, while mentoring participants across TU's programmes. At TU, Ashwini curates immersive experiences that challenge conventional education, grounded in values of curiosity, empathy, integrity, shared learning, and a commitment to collective and systemic transformation.

ALIVELIHOODS
&
SEAILVNHETV
IN A WORLD OF
CRISES



2026 JULY 9-12 | TIMBAKTU



About the Venue

Timbaktu is an agro-forest habitat venue in Chennekothapalli village in Sri Sathya Sai district of Andhra Pradesh.

The venue is managed by **The Timbaktu Collective**, a pioneering grassroots nonprofit organisation that is transforming a drought-prone region in Andhra Pradesh through organic agriculture, natural regeneration, community-based institutions, alternative banking, rural entrepreneurship, and the rights of women, children, and persons with disabilities. Know more: <https://timbaktu.org/>



ALIVELIHOODS
&
SUSTAINABLE
IN A WORLD OF
CRISES



2026 JULY 9-12 | TIMBAKTU

Apply here:

<https://www.travellersuniversity.org/aaiawoc>



ALIVELIHOODS
&
SEAILVNREITV
IN A WORLD OF
C R I S E S



2026 JULY 9-12 | TIMBAKTU

Participant Reflections



Written



Video

ALIVELIHOODS
&
SEAILVNHETV
IN A WORLD OF
C R I S E S



2026 JULY 9-12 | TIMBAKTU