



FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

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Forests help stabilise the climate. They regulate ecosystems, protect biodiversity, play an integral part in the carbon cycle, support livelihoods, and can help drive sustainable growth.

To maximise the climate benefits of forests, we must **keep more forest landscapes intact, manage them more sustainably, and restore more of those landscapes which we have lost.**

WHAT IS THE ISSUE?

Forests are a stabilising force for the climate. They regulate ecosystems, protect biodiversity, play an integral part in the carbon cycle, support livelihoods, and supply goods and services that can drive sustainable growth.

Forests' role in climate change is two-fold. They act as both a cause and a solution for greenhouse gas emissions. Around 25% of global emissions come from the land sector, the second largest source of greenhouse gas emissions after the energy sector. About half of these (5-10 GtCO₂e annually) comes from deforestation and forest degradation.

WHAT IS THE ISSUE?

- Forests are also one of the most important solutions to addressing the effects of climate change. Approximately 2.6 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide, one-third of the CO₂ released from burning fossil fuels, is absorbed by forests every year. Estimates show that nearly two billion hectares of degraded land across the world – an area the size of South America – offer opportunities for restoration. Increasing and maintaining forests is therefore an essential solution to climate change.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Halting the loss and degradation of forest ecosystems and promoting their restoration have the potential to contribute over one-third of the total climate change mitigation that scientists say is required by 2030 to meet the objectives of the Paris Agreement.

Other benefits in support of both people and nature are considerable:

Globally, **1.6 billion people** (nearly 25% of the world's population) rely on forests for their livelihoods, many of whom are the world's poorest.

Forests are home to **80% of the world's terrestrial biodiversity.**

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Combatting deforestation and forest degradation in areas of high biodiversity and cultural significance, such as primary forests and World Heritage sites. This helps conserve the benefits that people and societies get from forests, including forest carbon stocks and livelihoods.

Restoring forest landscapes helps enhance climate change mitigation and adaptation. As the co-founder and Secretariat of the [Bonn Challenge](#) – a global effort to bring 350 million hectares of deforested and degraded land under restoration by 2030 – IUCN supports national and sub-national decision makers in reaching this important goal. Reaching the 350 million hectare target could sequester up to 1.7 gigatonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent annually.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

- demanding forest products from sustainable sources, and an increasing number of major palm oil, timber, paper and other forest product corporations are beginning the conversion to deforestation-free supply chains.
- In addition to creating and maintaining protected areas and launching initiatives towards more sustainable management, many countries, subnational governments and private landowners are restoring degraded and deforested land. This helps to take pressure off healthy, intact forests and reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.





ASSESSMENT

NOW IT'S YOUR TURN

Read the following sentences and decide if they are true or false:	T	F
1. Forests help stabilise the climate.		
2. We must keep more forest landscapes intact.		
3. We don't need to restore more of those landscapes which we have lost.		
4. One-third of the CO ₂ released from burning fossil fuels, is absorbed by forests every year.		
5. Increasing and maintaining forests is not an essential solution to climate change.		

**MATCH THE
SENTENCES
BELOW:**

1. Combating deforestation helps

2. Forests

3. The Bonn Challenge

a) regulate ecosystems, protect biodiversity, play an integral part in the carbon cycle. ___

b) a global effort to bring 350 million hectares of deforested and degraded land under restoration by 2030 ____

c) helps conserve the benefits that people and societies get from forests. _____



FILL THE GAPS USING THE GIVEN WORDS.

Forests:

1. Regulate ____
2. Protect ____
3. play an integral part in the ____
4. Support livelihoods,
5. Can help drive sustainable ____

a)ecosystems b) carbon cycle
c)sustainable growth d)biodiversty
e)livelihoods.



THE END

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
ATTENTION!!!!