

Despite existing challenges, the participation of local communities adequate financing and incentives in forest restoration proves. Examine.

→ India's geographical land constitutes to 21.6% of forest cover but however 41% of it are degraded

→ the forest lands are heavily relied upon by the people and hence conservative measures must be inclusive of the communities that dwell there and also have sufficient funding.

Need for local community participation

→ India has 21.9% of population below poverty line living as tribes in the forest who depend for subsistence

→ understanding local ecology can play a major role in formulating guidelines for sustainable interventions for implementing restoration efforts.

→ Scientific based study must be done to cater to the best needs of the people and the forests.

Need for adequate financing and incentives

→ Finances play an important role in better formulation and implementation of the conservation plans

→ So far the contribution has been made by only 2% of the total achievements.

→ Hence involving corporates and promoting idea of CSR funds who provide certain help for restoration activities.

Steps taken so far

- India has agreed in the Bonn Convention to restore 26 MHA by 2030
- By the inauguration of Joint forest management committees (JFMC) atleast 25 MHA are conserved and 20 million people have participated for forest conservation and restoration

Way forward

→ Involvement of stakeholders like forest dwellers, NAO's, civil society would better, help not only to formulate restoration plans that are more efficient but also raise awareness and generate funds for its implementation.

→ Thus the uncertainties can only be removed through an inclusive approach