

Why hydroelectricity projects:

Himalayas are blessed with potential for hydro projects which has perennial river, topography with elevation.

India's NDC on Paris deal which promises 5 GW of hydro projects i.e., Renewable energy also requires expanding hydro projects.

Potential benefits & harm:

Benefits:

- Renewable energy
- water to nearby society

Harm:

- Flooding & disaster
- ~~de~~ siltation
- Infrastructural damage & to community.

Policy Issues:

- EIA which requires benefits outweighing the harm is also not on benefiting side.

- Himalayas fall under seismic zone 5 which has potential of any disaster.
- Streamlining the data from National Mission on Sustainable Himalayan Ecosystem which gathers the knowledge on Himalayas.
- Monitoring authority for Glacial lakes which will look into potential Glacial lake burst
- Integrating ISRO capacities to monitor the melting of snow
- Monitoring the temperature of ecosystem and ill effects of Global warming on Himalayas.

If India needs to achieve SDG goal 13 - on climate action it also requires policy framework on long term with inclusive participation of ~~long~~ local communities, NGO, scientific society for better Himalayan region.