

Clarity on objectives and removing ambiguity on key aspects will be essential for India to achieve forest related national and international commitments.

Examine

Forest landscape play a major role to tackle climate change by providing broad range of ecosystem services to wide range of stakeholders. But lack of clarity on climate change policy objectives and its key aspects needs a relook to achieve the National Determined Contributions and International commitments.

Clarity on objective needed:

1. Objective on Bonn challenge:

1. Bonn challenge on Forest restoration - India committed for 26 M hectares by 2030.
2. ISRO - potential area for restoration - 98.4 Mha; where as, ground reality shows - 63 Mha.
3. Thus the objective should clarify the necessary forest types that should be adopted to reach Bonn challenge to have specific clarity.

2. Paris Conference - Forest Landscape Restoration:

1. The international commitment favours forest sink, forest reservoir to reduce green house gas emission through FLR of 350 Mha

by 2030.

2. But there is a need of clarity of Indian adoption of baseline whether 2011 or 2015.
3. ~~Also~~ lack of clarification is still persisting the objective to be lagging implementation.

Removing Ambiguity on key aspects:

1. Stakeholder and institutional arrangement:

1. India INDC 2.5 to 3bn Tonnes of additional forest cover by 2030.
2. But commitment still lacks proper stakeholder participation rate due to conflict of Interest.
3. (e.g) Clearance of forest by coal mines and environment ministry conflict of interest

2. Funding in REDD+:

1. There is ambiguity in key aspect of India's international funding in deforestation reduction.
2. (e.g) UNEP favours pool funding of UNO and state parties, while Indian state parties still lack their presence due to mutual boundary issues in forest areas.

Future Prospects:

1. Integrated framework on policy → comprising all stakeholder involvement should publish definitions, boundary limit, partnership ratio etc.
2. Institutional framework like autonomous body can be created