

SACEP also serves as the Secretariat for the **South Asia Seas Program (SASP)**, which comes under the purview of the UNEP Regional Seas Program.

During the Conference of the Parties (COP15) held in December 2009 in Copenhagen developed countries pledged to provide new and additional resources, including forestry and investments, approaching USD 30 billion for the period 2010 - 2012 and with balanced allocation between mitigation and adaptation. This collective commitment has come to be known as “**fast-start finance**”.

REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) is the global endeavour to create an incentive for developing countries to protect, better manage and save their forest resources, thus contributing to the global fight against climate change. Three UN agencies- UNEP, UNDP and FAO have collaborated in the establishment of UN-REDD programme.

REDD+ goes beyond merely checking deforestation and forest degradation and includes incentives for positive elements of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

REDD+ incentivises developing countries to keep their forests conserved by offering result-based payments for actions to reduce and remove forest carbon emissions. Thus, it can play a big role in protection of biodiversity, strengthening the resilience of forest ecosystems and reducing poverty.

Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS):

The Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) recognizes GIAHS as “remarkable land use systems and landscapes which are rich in globally significant biological diversity evolving from the co-adaptation of a community with its environment and its needs and aspirations for sustainable development”.

India has two GIAHS as recognized by FAO:

1. Traditional Agricultural System, Koraput, Odisha
2. Below Sea Level Farming System, Kuttanad, Kerala

Pointers for prelims:

1. **One Trillion Trees Initiative (1t.org)**, an initiative by World Economic Forum (WEF) and led by UNEP and FAO, was launched to ensure the conservation and restoration of one trillion trees within this decade.
2. UN General Assembly declared the **United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-30** with an aim to massively scale-up the restoration of degraded and destroyed ecosystems in order to fight the climate crisis and enhance food security, water supply and biodiversity.
3. **Tropical Forest Alliance** was launched in Rio+20 as a global public-private partnership with the aim of halving deforestation by 2020 and ending it by 2030 in tropical rainforest countries. The secretariat of the Alliance is hosted by the World Economic Forum.
4. **Global Carbon Project**, established in 2001, is a Global Research Project of Future Earth and a research partner of the World Climate Research Programme. It seeks to quantify GHG emissions and their causes.
5. Recently, New Zealand passed the “**Zero Carbon Law**” which seeks to reduce GHG emissions to net zero by 2050.
 - a. Likewise, European Union launched “**Green Deal**”, which aims to achieve Carbon Neutrality by 2050 and increasing emission reduction by 2030 to at least 50%.
6. UNFCCC secretariat launched its “**Momentum for Change: Climate Neutral Now**”, an initiative aimed at encouraging and supporting all levels of the society to take climate action to achieve a climate neutral world by the mid-century, as enshrined in the Paris Agreement.