United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration

2021-2030

UN environment

United Nations
Environment Programme

UNGA Resolution A/RES/73/284

- **Adopted 1 March 2019, 72 co-sponsors**

  Prevent, halt and reverse ecosystem degradation

  Raise awareness of importance of conservation & ecosystem restoration

- **All terrestrial and marine ecosystems**

- **Builds on existing commitments:**

  LDN, Bonn Challenge, Initiative 20x20, AFR 100…

- **FAO and UNEP invited to lead implementation:**

  In collaboration with Rio Conventions and others

  Within mandates and existing/voluntary resources

The need for action

Land degradation

- **The degradation of soil and land continues**

  due to heightened competition for land, undermining the long-term security and development of all countries

- **1/5 of the Earth's land (24 million km^2) affected**

  19% of cropland, 16% of forest land, 19% of grassland, and 28% of rangeland.

- **Advanced stages of land degradation**

  in some dryland areas of South America and Africa the land degradation is leading to desertification

Loss of Forest areas

- **A consistent trend of loss in forest as a proportion of total land area,**

  between 2010 and 2015, the most apparent drops:

  22.5 to 20.96% in Africa

  49.1 to 46.5% in Latin America and the Caribbean

- **Slight gains in:**

  West Asia, East Asia, and South Asia

  North America and Europe

Forest area annual net change rate

- **Countries with the highest annual net change rates in the period from 2010 to 2015:**

  Togo -8.11%,

  Uganda -5.48%

  Nigeria -5.01%

  Pakistan -2.69%

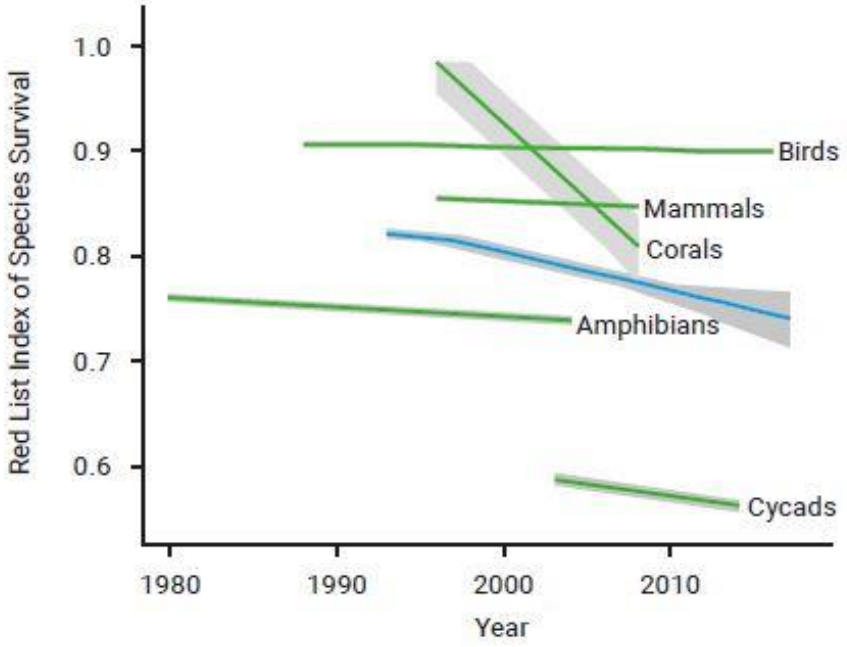
  Honduras -2.43%

Endangered species

Change in a negative direction

Red list index.

Red List Index of species survival for birds, mammals, amphibians, corals and cycads, and an aggregate (in blue) for all species (The shading denotes 95 percent confidence intervals).



Source: IUCN (2017a), Hoffman et al. (2018).
Tier I; Custodian agency: International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

From 1993 to 2017, the most threatened groups:

63% cycads species

41% amphibians

33% reef-forming corals

The need for action

Land Degradation:

Negatively affecting well-being of **3.2 billion people**

Loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services = **10% of global GDP**

Forests:
70 M ha lost since 2000

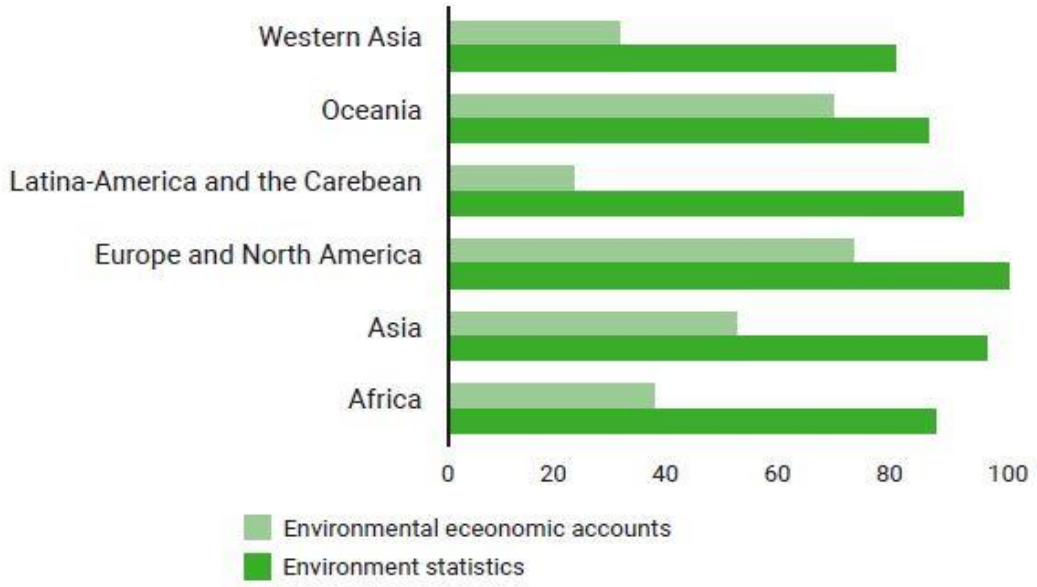
Wetlands:
70% lost in last century

Drastic decline of coral reefs and seagrass beds

Integration of ecosystem and biodiversity in planning

Value of biodiversity is not widely reflected in decision making yet

Progress towards national targets established in accordance with Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.



Source: UNCTAD 2007
Tier III; Custodian agency: Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Benefits extend across Agenda 2030

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- **Biodiversity conservation**
- **Climate change:**
  >30% of mitigation required by by 2030
  Increased resilience
- **Productive landscapes/seascapes:**
  Jobs, livelihoods, food & water security, human health…
- **Economic return:**
  Cost/benefit ratio: 1/10 – 1/15
  Costs of action vs inaction: 1/3

*Restoring 350 M ha of degraded land by 2030 could generate up to **USD 9 trillion in net benefits***

Next steps

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- Drawing lessons from previous decades
- Awareness raising & stakeholder consultations
- Implementation & communication strategies
- Monitoring system
- Technical assistance & knowledge sharing platforms
- Investment opportunities

Mass movement


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Thank you