



© UNDP Pakistan

Sustainable forest management can help conserve biodiversity, mitigate climate change and secure forest ecosystem services.

Sustainable Forest Management to Secure Multiple Benefits in Pakistan's High Conservation Areas

Less than 5 percent of Pakistan's total area is under forest cover, and 1.5 percent of these forests are lost every year. This has profound impacts on Pakistan's biodiversity, environment, and agriculture. With climate change, such events are becoming more frequent and more devastating, pointing to the urgent need to conserve Pakistan's indigenous forests.

This project focuses on seven forest landscapes (145,300 hectares) containing three vulnerable

QUICK FACTS

Duration: 2016 - 2020

Implementation partner: Government of Pakistan, Governments of Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab

Funding partner: Global Environment Facility (GEF) and UNDP

Location: Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, Sindh

Annual budget (2020): US\$ 1,899,797

Contact: Muhammad Sohail, Programme Officer, Environment and Climate Change Unit, UNDP
Muhammad.sohail@undp.org

and important forest types: temperate coniferous forests in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, dry scrub forests and pine forests in Punjab, and riverine forests Sindh.

Objectives

To promote sustainable forest management in Pakistan's west Himalayan coniferous forests, scrub forests and riverine forests for biodiversity conservation, mitigation of climate change, and securing forest ecosystem services.

Major Achievements in 2019

- Both missing and additional boundary pillars were identified for the state forests' land in Siren and Kaghan landscapes. Total 1003 boundary pillars were constructed; 448 in Siren and 555 in Kaghan.
- For promoting ecotourism, the Project constructed 8 benches, 2 shelter huts (rest places), fireplace in Kamal Ban and renovated Kamal Ban rest house. A camping site was also developed in Kamal Ban.
- Delineation of the high-value conservation areas in Siren and Kaghan is being conducted by IUCN.
- Community has been trained on Community Management Skills and Resource mobilization and Business development.
- Plantation on 200 hectares in Kaghan Forest and 70 hectares land in Siren Forest has been completed.
- Seed dibbling over an area of 105 hectares land completed in Siren Forest.
- 6.5 acres of fruit orchards were established at Chakwal by planting 1422 different fruit plants (2 acres at Diljaba, 2.5 acres at Parera and 2 acres Samarkand).

- 2 water ponds (one at Ara and the other at Dhoke Kattan village) were renovated.
- 2 water dams were constructed at Phadial identified as a priority need by the local community members.
- A mini dam was constructed at Ghoon village in the Kallar Syedan Subdivision area of Rawalpindi North Forest Division.
- Dry Afforestation carried out in different project areas with a total area of approx. 2,000 acres.
- A biodiversity nursery of 50,000 plants of Toot was established in Ara village on private land.
- 37,600 kg seed of indigenous species (*Acacia nilotica*, *Prosopis cineraria*, *Zizyphus mauritiana*) procured prior to the monsoon.

Planned activities for 2020

- Development of Management Plans and revision of working plan codes for the landscapes in KPK, Punjab, and Sindh
- Development of GPS Monitoring System for upper and lower Siren Forest Divisions in KPK and development of MIS system in Punjab and KPK
- Capacity building of community members on to diversify their means of income based on communities' preferences (Dairy products, Kitchen gardening, enterprise development, tunnel farming, etc.) in Sindh, KPK, and Punjab.
- Establishment of model fruit orchards for exhibiting to communities in Punjab, KPK and Sindh
- Implementation of Management Plan of Chinji National Park.

- Establishment of 1000 Hectares guzara forest closure and strengthening of library and resource centre, GIS mapping in KPK
- Walnut Culturing on 20 hectares land in KPK
- Dry afforestation of 500 hectares land in Chakwal, Padiyal and Rawalpindi North
- Regeneration of riverine forests (low lying areas) over 1,500 hectares land
- Provision of biogas plants and fuel-efficient stoves in Sindh