

6. National Red List Roadmap and Vision 2025–2030 - Environment

India launched its National Red List Roadmap and Vision 2025–2030 at the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025.

IUCN World Conservation Congress

It is the largest gathering of nature conservation experts, leaders and decision-makers in the world. It is held once every four years, bringing together over 1,400 government, civil society, and Indigenous members to set global conservation priorities.

IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025 - Held from 9 to 15 October 2025 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Five themes of 2025 -

1. Resilient conservation action
2. Climate risk reduction
3. Equity
4. Nature-positive economies
5. Innovative leadership

National Red List Roadmap and Vision 2025–2030

1. Overview - The National Red List Roadmap and Vision 2025–2030 is a comprehensive biodiversity monitoring and conservation initiative led by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC). Its purpose is to systematically document, assess, and monitor India's flora and fauna, generating science-based data for policymaking and conservation action. The initiative emphasizes evidence-driven conservation, aligned with global biodiversity standards and international commitments.

Development and Collaborations

Spearheaded by -

1. **Zoological Survey of India (ZSI)**
2. **Botanical Survey of India (BSI)**

Collaborators -

1. **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**
2. **Centre for Species Survival**

The project represents a national-international partnership, ensuring adoption of IUCN Red List protocols and global best practices for species assessment.

Objectives - Establish a nationally coordinated framework for the assessment and monitoring of India's biodiversity. Generate reliable data to guide -

1. Conservation policies and legal frameworks
2. Identification of endangered, vulnerable, and critically threatened species
3. Targeted intervention strategies for species protection

Provide baseline and longitudinal data to track progress and trends in biodiversity health. Create a five-year roadmap to assess the extinction risk of ~11,000 species -

1. 7,000 species of flora
2. 4,000 species of fauna

Key Features

A. Baseline Data for Conservation - Provides a science-based evidence framework for biodiversity planning and monitoring through 2030. Enables systematic tracking of species status, including threat levels, population trends, and habitat pressures.

B. International Alignment - Complies with IUCN global standards for species assessment. Supports

India's obligations under –

1. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
2. Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including targets for species conservation and ecosystem management.

C. National Red Data Books – Plans to publish National Red Data Books for flora and fauna by 2030. These publications will provide a comprehensive reference for conservationists, researchers, policymakers, and educators.

D. Scientific Integration – Employs modern tools like GIS mapping, remote sensing, and DNA barcoding for species documentation. Facilitates data-driven threat assessment and species prioritization for protected areas, recovery programs, and habitat restoration.

Significance for India

A. Biodiversity Governance – Strengthens India's species documentation, policy integration, and regulatory mechanisms. Helps in planning protected areas, conservation corridors, and habitat management programs.

B. Global Biodiversity Standing

India is one of 17 megadiverse countries, hosting –

1. ~8% of global flora
2. ~7.5% of global fauna

Home to four global biodiversity hotspots –

1. Himalayas
2. Western Ghats
3. Indo-Burma
4. Sundaland (Nicobar Islands)

C. Addressing Gaps – Despite richness, only 6.33% of Indian plant species and 7.2% of animal species have been assessed in the IUCN Red List, highlighting the urgent need for comprehensive assessment.

D. Conservation Prioritization

Facilitates –

1. Identification of species at risk of extinction
2. Evidence-based allocation of funding and resources
3. Enhanced community participation in conservation
4. Better integration with climate adaptation and ecosystem resilience programs

Global Context – Globally, 163,000 species have been assessed under the IUCN Red List. Approximately 28% are threatened with extinction, emphasizing the urgency for large-scale conservation actions.

India's initiative contributes significantly to global biodiversity targets, helping achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 15 – Life on Land, particularly –

1. Target 15.5 – Reduce the degradation of natural habitats
2. Target 15.6 – Promote fair and equitable sharing of benefits from genetic resources

Future Vision

By 2030, the project aims to –

1. Create a nationally harmonized system for species monitoring
2. Establish real-time digital databases for flora and fauna assessments
3. Enable policy-driven conservation planning, including species recovery programs
4. Integrate terrestrial, freshwater, and marine biodiversity monitoring
5. Align with global frameworks, supporting India's leadership role in biodiversity conservation

Conclusion

The National Red List Roadmap 2025–2030 is a strategic initiative bridging national biodiversity governance with global conservation priorities. It strengthens evidence-based policy, scientific

documentation, and species protection, while reinforcing India's position as a megadiverse country with a critical responsibility to safeguard global biodiversity. By addressing the current gaps in species assessment, it provides the foundation for long-term ecological sustainability, climate resilience, and biodiversity security.

Source - [https - //www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2176948](https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2176948)

