



World Forest Day

(March 21)

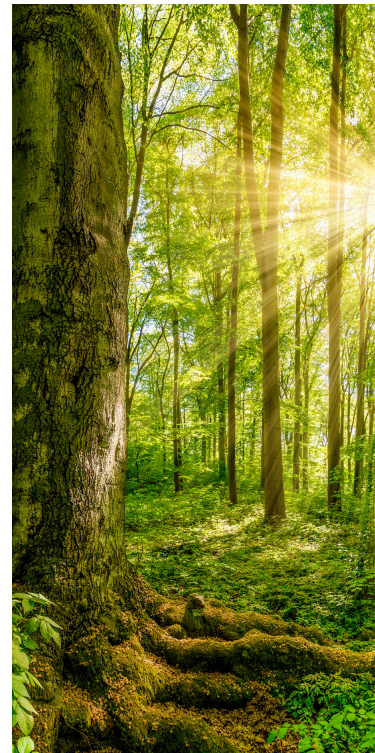
15 LIFE ON LAND



When we drink a glass of water, write in a notebook, take medicine for fever or build a house, we do not always make the connection with forests. The link between forests, these and many aspects of our lives are critical, yet often overlooked. Forests cover one-third of the earth's landmass; performing vital functions around the world. The sustainable management and use of forests are key to combating climate change, and contributing to the prosperity and well-being of the current and future generations. Around 1.6 billion people - including more than 2,000 indigenous cultures - depend on forests for their livelihoods, medicines, fuel, food, and shelter. For this reason, forest conservation is vital in poverty alleviation and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Did you know?

- Forests are the most biologically diverse ecosystems on land. Earth is home to more than 80% of the terrestrial species of animals, plants, and insects.
- Forests and woodlands are made up of over 60,000 tree species.
- Approximately 1.6 billion people depend directly on forests for food, shelter, energy, and income.
- 13 million hectares of forest are destroyed annually and this accounts for 12 to 20 percent of the global greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change.
- UN Secretary General stated that, "2020 has been referred to as a **"Nature Super Year,"** and must be the year where we turn the tide on deforestation and forestry loss. <https://youtu.be/wSGqpNTXjHs>



Get Inspired by Tech Innovations Supporting Forest Conservation

- **iNaturalist**- A free mobile app that helps you to identify plants and animals around you. By recording and sharing your observations, quality research data is generated for scientists to better understand and protect nature. iNaturalist is a joint initiative by the California Academy of Sciences and the National Geographic Society <https://www.inaturalist.org/>
- **Smartplant**- A free Android and iOS app that helps users to identify plants and receive custom care through a "digital care calendar" that keeps track of the needs of every plant in your garden and alerts you when it is time to take action. <https://smartplantapp.com/>
- Participate in webinars and subscribe to forestry focused newsletters to stay up to date
 - A UN Message for World Forest Day 2020 ([Watch now](#))
 - **Forestry webinar:** Promotes and delivers live webinars on forestry <http://www.forestrywebinars.net>
 - **WebinarPortalWorld Wildlife Forest:** <https://www.worldwildlife.org/initiatives/forest>

