

Global Forest Goals Report 2021:

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In News: The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) recently published the Global Forest Goals Report 2021.

Key Highlights-

- To combat the challenges of COVID-19, climate change, and the biodiversity crisis facing forests, the study recommended a potential course of action that included greater sustainability and a greener, more inclusive economy.
- 252 million people living in forests and savannas are expected to earn less than US\$1.25 a day, which was the World Bank's poverty line calculation until 2015.
- Nearly 18 percent of the world's forests were legally protected areas in 2020, compared to just over 14 percent in 2000.
- Between 2010 and 2020, the global area of protected forests increased by approximately three million hectares per year, with increases in every country.
- Currently, **73 percent of the world's forests are owned by the government**, 22 percent by private individuals, and the rest is classified as "unknown" or "other".

About Global Forest Goals Report-

- It is the first assessment of where the world stands in terms of meeting the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2030.
- It is **based on 52 voluntary national reports and 19 voluntary national contributions** that constitute 75% of the world's forests.
- It was created by the **United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and its United**

Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat (UNFFS).

- It is **based on** global quantitative and biophysical evidence, primarily from the **Food and Agriculture Organization's Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2020**.

It gives an initial assessment of progress toward achieving the **six Global Forest Goals** and the 26 related priorities outlined in the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2030.

United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030 (UNSPF)-

- At a special session of the UN Forum on Forests in 2017, the first-ever UN Strategic Plan for Forests was adopted.
- The strategy includes six Global Forest Goals and 26 related targets that must be met by 2030.
- Both of them are self-evident and universally applicable.
- It also contains a target of increasing forest area by 3% globally by 2030.
- This represents a 120 million hectare rise, or more than twice the size of France.

