



Role of Knowledge Based Organizations in Urban & Peri-Urban Forest Policy

WWF-Pakistan's Approach and Success

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Need of Urban & Peri-Urban Forest Policy

- Pakistan lost an average of approx. 43,000 ha of forests every year (Equivalent to half the size of Islamabad)
- Pakistan has just 2.2% forest cover and is well below the recommended cover of 25%
- Annual deforestation rate of over 2.37%, which is the second highest in Asia after Afghanistan
- Pakistan is among the top ten countries most affected by Climate Change
- Cities are most affected with compounding factors such as changes in climate patterns, increase in diseases, and heat island effects.
- **We're the first generation to feel impacts of climate change and probably the last generation that can do something about it**



WWF-Pakistan's Recommendations (Urban & Peri-Urban Forestry)

Based on field experiences during implementation of Urban Forestry Initiatives

Species Selection

- Native to the area and have close association with bird diversity
- Have no adverse effects on nearby infrastructures
- Maintenance-free as possible.
- Avoid Fruit Trees especially on roadside
- Tolerant of seasonal drought and Deep rooted to resist wind power
- Fast growing, if possible

Post Plantation Care

- During planning, more emphasis should be given to Post Plantation care especially protection from Livestock and ensure timely watering
- Awareness sessions for different target groups and involvement of Education Institutions (Universities, Colleges, Schools Students) will enhance the survival rate

Monitoring

- Ground verification/ Field monitoring must be supplemented with GIS based monitoring and fixed point photography



Areas where WWF-Pakistan Can Support

Technical Support

- Selection of appropriate species and sites
- Nursery raising and Management Training
- Training on Post Plantation care and Management

Monitoring Support

- Development of Monitoring Framework
- Training and capacity building in GIS based monitoring
- Training and capacity building in monitoring through Fixed Point Photography

Knowledge Generation

- Bring in International Expertise and knowledge (Best practices)
- A network of international offices and growing partnerships (Urban Forestry)
- Alignment of national priorities with global initiatives by showing Pakistan on global map



Our Continuing Efforts . . .

- Planting of 1.4 million native trees (14th Aug, 2018 to 13th Aug 2019) across the country under the **RUNG DO** Pakistan campaign
- Develop National Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL), National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) and Measurement, Reporting and Verifications (MRV) system for REDD+
- Billion Tree Afforestation Programme (BTAP) monitoring (Phase I & II)
- Agro-Forestry Assessment in KP, Punjab and Sindh with Financial Support of ZRK
- 11,500 ha (12.6 million plants) mangroves planted
- Efforts to conserve world's largest contiguous Chilghoza Forest in the Suleiman Range
- Promote Agro-Forestry in Cotton growing areas of Punjab
- Forest assessment & mapping of 52 districts
- National Forest Programme
- Watershed Management in Abbottabad and Haripur Districts



Thank You!

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for a living planet



What can **TREES** do?

- It is estimated that a single **TREE** planted will sequester atmospheric carbon dioxide at an average of **50 pounds** per year.
- A patch of **TREE** can recharge up to 0.96 million liters of water per year per ha
- A single mature **TREE** can release enough oxygen back into the atmosphere to support 2 human beings
- After five years of plantation, **TREE** reduced sediment yield from 295 kg/ha to 90 kg/ha