



GOAL 15: LIFE ON LAND

Compiled By

PIPS SDGs Desk

15 LIFE
ON LAND



To sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, and halt biodiversity loss



GOAL 15: LIFE ON LAND

A. General Statistics

- i. Pakistan is rich in biodiversity, particularly in the arid and semi-arid regions which cover almost 80% of the total land area.¹
- ii. A number of animal and plant species are threatened and/or endangered largely due to over-exploitation and loss of natural habitat.
- iii. The Government of Pakistan prepared the National Conservation Strategy (NCS) in 1992.
- iv. Forests in Pakistan cover an area of 4.224 million ha, covering only 4.8% of the total surveyed area of 87.98 million ha.²
- v. The Government of Pakistan has taken a number of steps for the protection and conservation of biodiversity including the national protected areas system.
- vi. From 2001 to 2012, Pakistan gained 850 ha of tree cover equal to < 0.1% of the global total.³
- vii. In Pakistan from 2001 to 2019, 15% of tree cover loss occurred in areas where the dominant drivers of loss resulted in deforestation.⁴
- viii. In Pakistan, the peak fire season typically begins in mid-January and lasts around 8 weeks. There were 1,327 VIIRS fire alerts reported between 16th of March 2020 and 8th of March 2021.⁵

B. Progress Tracking

Table 15 Status of Indicators – SDG 15

Code	Indicator	Year	Value	Year	Latest Value	Unit	Target 2030
15.1.1	Forest area as a proportion of total land area.	2014-2015	5.70 ⁶	2020	4.8 ⁷	%	12 ⁸
15.1.2	Proportion of			2017	12.31 ⁹	%	

¹Mirza B Baig and Faisal Sultan Al-Subaiee. "Biodiversity in Pakistan: key issue,." *Biodiversity* 10, no. 4 (2009).

² Baig and Sultan, "Biodiversity in Pakistan,"

³ Global Forest Watch, "Pakistan Deforestation Rates & Statistics | GFW," accessed March 9, 2021, <https://www.globalforestwatch.org/>

⁴ GFW, Pakistan Deforestation Rates

⁵ GFW, Pakistan Deforestation Rates

⁶ MoPDR, *Data Reporting Gaps*, 2018.

⁷ "Goal 15: Life On Land - SDG Tracker", Our World In Data, accessed March 09, 2021, <https://sdg-tracker.org/biodiversity>.

⁸ MoPDR, *Sustainable Development Goals National Framework 2018*.

⁹ SDG Tracker, Goal 15

	important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type						
15.2.1	Progress towards sustainable forest management <i>% change in forest area</i>	2010	-2.37 ¹⁰	2015	-2.69 ¹¹	%	
15.3.1	Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area			2015	5 ¹²	%	

¹⁰ SDG Tracker, Goal 15

¹¹ SDG Tracker, Goal 15

¹² SDG Tracker, Goal 15