

# China, Australia and India made the most gains in forest area: FAO report

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Indonesia saw an 8.4% decline in deforestation from 2021 to 2022, while Brazil's Amazon experienced a 50% reduction in deforestation in 2023.

The FAO report also said the rate of gross global mangrove loss decreased by 23% during the periods — 2000 to 2010 and 2010 to 2020. However, the FAO stressed that climate change is increasing the vulnerability of forests to various stressors, including wildfires and pests.

“Wildfire intensity and frequency are rising. Boreal forests accounted for nearly one-quarter of carbon dioxide emissions due to wildfires in 2021. In 2023, wildfires emitted an estimated 6,687 megatonnes of carbon dioxide globally, more than double the carbon dioxide emissions from the European Union due to fossil fuel burning that year,” the report read.

In the United States, 25 million hectares of forestlands are projected to experience losses exceeding 20% of host tree basal area due to insects and disease by 2027, according to the report.