



## **The baton of forest restoration in the net zero race**

11 January 2022-01-12

### ***For carbon sequestration, India must revisit its policy framework and reverse fading participation of local communities***

India's pledge to set a net zero target by 2070, at the COP26 summit, Glasgow, has again highlighted the importance of forests as an undisputed mechanism to help mitigate the challenges of climate change. Though, in more specific terms, this was already highlighted during the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) framework (2013) of REDD+ for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, along with the 'sustainable management of forests for the conservation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks'. In a study by Griscom (2017), land-based sinks (natural climate solutions which also include forests) can provide up to 37% of emission reduction and help in keeping the global temperature below 2° C. Further, recent research has favoured a natural regeneration model of restoration over the existing much-hyped mode of tree planting as such forests are said to secure nearly 32% carbon storage, as per one report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/the-baton-of-forest-restoration-in-the-net-zero-race/article38179497.ece>