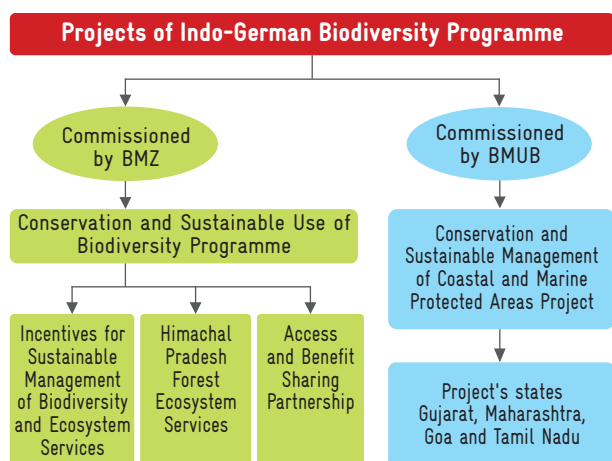




Indo - German Biodiversity Programme

To address the challenges in biodiversity conservation, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) have fostered a partnership for the implementation of projects dedicated to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in India. The Indo-German Biodiversity Programme is being implemented by MoEFCC and GIZ India since 2012.



HP-FES COMMISSIONED BY

Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.

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IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS



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Indo-German Biodiversity Programme



Himachal Pradesh Forest Ecosystem Services (HP-FES) Project



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Background

The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) is a global initiative focussed on mainstreaming the values of biodiversity and ecosystem services into decision-making at all levels.

Inspired by the international TEEB study, MoEFCC launched the TEEB-India Initiative (TII) in 2012 to make the values of biodiversity and linked ecosystem services explicit for consideration and mainstreaming into developmental planning.

TII targets action at the policy making levels, the business decision level and awareness of citizens. TII has prioritised its focus on three ecosystems-forests, inland wetlands, and coastal and marine ecosystems, to ensure that tangible outcomes can be integrated into policies and planning for these ecosystems. GIZ has been supporting TII since 2012.

Integration of Forest Ecosystem Services (FES) approach into forest management in Himachal Pradesh

Based on the recommendations under TII, the project will evaluate the ecosystem services provided by the mountain forests in the state of Himachal Pradesh.

The project aims to enable the Forest Department of Himachal Pradesh to introduce the FES approach in the state's forest management. This will be done through the development of forest management systems focussing on the optimisation of FES, together with the Forest Department and the local communities. The project will build the capacity of local communities, and the Forest Department to implement the FES approach.

The FES approach is expected to result in improved biodiversity, as well as enhanced flow of forest ecosystem services. It provides a long-term development potential for the rural population. To monitor the effects of the FES approach, a Long Term Ecological Monitoring (LTEM) will be developed and institutionalised in the Forest Department.



Forests, lifeline of the mountains and plains

Mountain forests are crucial not only for the people residing in the mountains, but also for the large population of the adjacent plains. They provide a number of ecosystem services like water and climate regulation, soil conservation, provision of resources critical for local livelihoods, and abundant recreational values.

Himachal Pradesh (HP) is one of the mountain states of India. With around 3300 plant species and more than 5700 animal species, the state is rich in biodiversity, which is key to the important services that the state's forests provide.

By understanding the significance of forest ecosystems, their values for humans, and the planet at large, communities have the potential to play a significant role in mainstreaming biodiversity conservation into developmental planning.