



## Aravali Green Wall Project

### Why in News?

Haryana government has finalised its proposal for the [Aravali Green Wall project](#) to revive degraded areas of the hills in **seven districts** of the state for creating a continuous ecological barrier along the range.

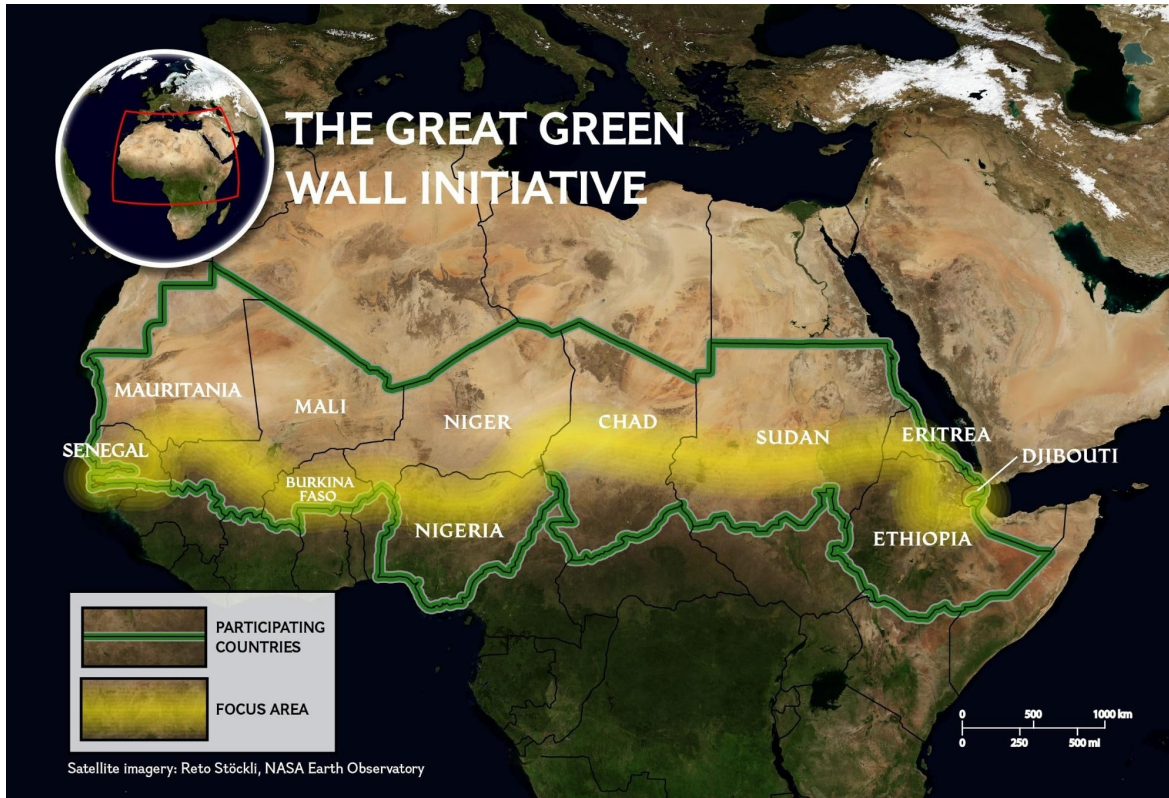
### Key Points

- The project is part of the Union environment ministry's **Green Wall initiative**.
  - In the first phase, **66 water bodies** will be developed in the **Aravallis of Gurgaon, Faridabad, Nuh, Rewari, Mahendergarh, Charkhi Dadri and Bhiwani**.
- The project is inspired by **African countries' 'Great Green Wall' initiative** and aims to restore green cover on the hills that stand as the only barrier blocking the expansion of desert-like conditions from **Thar to north India, including Delhi-NCR**.
  - The goal is to **restore around 1.15 million hectares** of the forests across four states — **Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Delhi by 2027**.
- A 2022 report by the [Indian Space Research Organisation \(ISRO\)](#) had found that around 8.2% of Haryana's total area had degraded to become more arid over the years.
- The project emphasis is on **soil conservation, erosion control, and improved water retention mechanisms** that contribute significantly to **stabilizing the water cycle, mitigating soil degradation** and fortifying against the detrimental impacts of droughts and floods.
- According to ecologists and wildlife experts, Aravallis have several areas that are not notified as forest, but they are still home to a rich biodiversity of plants and wildlife. Plans need to be formed to conserve these green patches.



### Great Green Wall of Africa

- It aims to restore **Africa's degraded landscapes** and transform millions of lives in one of the world's poorest regions, **the Sahel**.
- The African initiative is still **only 15% complete**.
- Once fully completed, the **Wall will be the largest living structure on the planet - an 8,000 km** natural wonder of the world stretching across the entire width of the continent.
- African countries during the **UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCCD) Conference of the Parties 14 (COP)** sought global support in terms of finance to make the Wall a reality in the continent's Sahel region by 2030.
  - **Sahel is a semiarid region** of western and north-central Africa extending from Senegal eastward to Sudan.
  - It forms a transitional zone between the arid Sahara (desert) to the north and the belt of humid savannas to the south.



## Aravali Mountain Range

- The Aravallis is the **oldest folded mountain on Earth**.
- It spans over **800 km from Gujarat to Delhi (through Rajasthan and Haryana)**.
- The **highest peak** in the Aravalli Range is **Guru Peak on Mount Abu**.
- **Impact on Climate:**
  - The Aravallis have an impact upon the climate of northwest India and beyond.
  - During monsoons, the mountain range gently guides the monsoon clouds eastwards towards Shimla and Nainital, thus **helping nurture the sub-Himalayan rivers and feeding the north Indian plains**.
  - In the winter months, it **protects** the fertile alluvial river valleys (the para-Indus and Gangetic) **from the assault of cold westerly winds from Central Asia**.