



## IPBES Transformative Change Assessment

**For Prelims:** [IPBES](#), [United Nations](#), [United Nations Environment Programme](#), [Carbon-neutrality](#), [National Biodiversity Action Plan \(NBAP\)](#), [Swachh Bharat Abhiyan](#), [National Action Plan on Climate Change](#).

**For Mains:** Biodiversity Conservation, Governance for Sustainability, Public Policies for Environmental Protection

[Source: IPBES](#)

### Why in News?

A report released by the [Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services \(IPBES\)](#) titled **Transformative Change Assessment**, stresses the critical role that governance plays in mitigating biodiversity loss.

- It highlights how effective governance, with its focus on inclusivity and sustainability, is essential for preserving **biodiversity and driving long-term**, systemic change.

### What are the Key Highlights of the Transformative Change Report?

- **Prevent Ecological Damage:** The report highlights the urgent need for fundamental shifts in **how societies interact with nature to prevent biodiversity loss**, warning that inaction could lead to **irreversible ecological damage**, including the loss of coral reefs and rainforests.
- **Economic and Employment Opportunities:** Immediate action could generate **USD 10 trillion in business opportunities** and support **395 million jobs globally by 2030**, especially in industries that depend heavily on nature.
- **Causes of Biodiversity Loss:** The report identifies the root causes as the **disconnection between people and nature**, domination over nature and others.
  - Other causes include the **concentration of power and wealth**, and prioritizing **short-term material gains over long-term sustainability**.
- **Five Key Strategies for Transformation:**
  - **Conserve and Regenerate:** Focus on areas of **biocultural diversity** that combine **environmental restoration with cultural values**, such as **community-driven forest management** in Nepal.
  - **Systematic Change in Key Sectors:** Address sectors like **agriculture, fisheries, and infrastructure** that contribute to biodiversity loss through sustainable practices.
  - **Transform Economic Systems:** Shift toward **nature-positive economies** by reforming **harmful subsidies** and promoting **sustainable business models**.
  - **Adaptive Governance:** Build Adaptive governance systems that integrate diverse actors, including **Indigenous communities**, and make biodiversity a central concern in policies.
    - Adaptive governance enables **continuous adjustment of strategies** based on changing environmental conditions and new information.
    - This flexibility is crucial for addressing complex biodiversity challenges and

remaining responsive to emerging threats.

- **Shift Views and Values:** Promote the recognition of **human-nature interconnectedness**, with an emphasis on education, experiential activities, and integrating diverse knowledge systems.

## IPBES

- IPBES, established in 2012, is an **independent intergovernmental body** with nearly 150 member governments including India.
  - It provides scientific assessments on biodiversity, ecosystems, and their contributions to people, along with tools and methods for their protection and sustainable use.
- It is not a **United Nations body**. However, the **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** provides secretariat services to IPBES.
- **Secretariat:** Bonn, Germany.

## What is Transformative Change and How Can it be Achieved?

- **Transformative Change:** It is a **fundamental, system-wide reorganization** across technological, economic, and social factors, including paradigms, goals, and values, necessary for the **conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity**, and achieving a **good quality of life and sustainable development**.
- **Steps to Achieve Transformative Change:**
  - **Carbon-Neutral Actions:** Strive for **carbon-neutrality**, making it a norm for individuals, businesses, and governments, while supporting legitimate climate-friendly offsets.
  - **Earth-Positive Choices:** Make it easy, enjoyable, and affordable for people to contribute **positively to the environment** by shifting supply chains and influencing policies.
  - **Reforming Subsidies:** Redirect **subsidies and incentives to support environmental stewardship** and facilitate transitions away from resource-extractive industries to sustainable practices.
  - **Precautionary Decision-Making:** Implement precautionary, adaptive, inclusive, and cross-sector decision-making, addressing environmental threats proactively, **even without definitive proof**.
  - **Strengthening Environmental Laws:** Advocate for **stronger environmental laws**, ensuring consistent enforcement, and supporting global initiatives that protect nature and promote sustainable economic activities.

## What are India's Initiatives for Transformative Change?

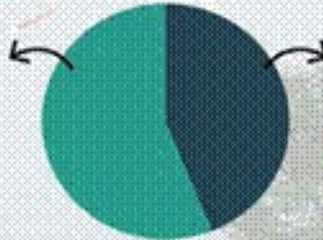
- **National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP).**
- **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.**
- **National Action Plan on Climate Change.**
- **Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles (FAME).**
- **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY).**
- **Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment).**
- **Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT).**
- **SDGs for Transformative Change:** The **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** for transformative change focus on sustainable development through inclusive growth, addressing **Life Below Water, Climate Action, Clean Energy, Clean Water, Responsible Consumption**, and **Life on Land**.
  - India's initiatives like the **Smart Cities Mission, Green India Mission, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana**, and **National Clean Energy Fund** align with various SDGs.
  - India has made **substantial investments** in **renewable energy**, aiming to **generate 500 GW from non-fossil sources by 2030**, under the leadership of the **International Solar Alliance**.

## Record increase in India's RE Capacity

### Surge in Solar Energy

Increase: 27.9%

Till Oct 2024  
92.12 GW

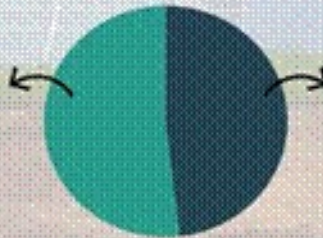


Till Oct 2023  
72.02 GW

### Surge in Wind Energy

Increase: 7.7%

Till Oct 2024  
47.72 GW



Till Oct 2023  
44.29 GW



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### **Drishti Mains Question:**

Discuss the concept of transformative change. How can this be implemented to address biodiversity loss and achieve sustainable development?

## **UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Questions (PYQs)**

### **Prelims**

**Q1. Which of the following can be threats to the biodiversity of a geographical area? (2012)**

1. Global warming
2. Fragmentation of habitat
3. Invasion of alien species
4. Promotion of vegetarianism

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

**(a)** 1, 2 and 3 only

**(b)** 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 4 only

(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Ans: (a)**

**Q2. Biodiversity forms the basis for human existence in the following ways: (2011)**

1. Soil formation
2. Prevention of soil erosion
3. Recycling of waste
4. Pollination of crops

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only

(b) 2, 3 and 4 only

(c) 1 and 4 only

(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Ans: (d)**

### **Mains**

Q. How does biodiversity vary in India? How is the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 helpful in the conservation of flora and fauna? **(2018)**

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/ipbes-transformative-change-assessment>