

Protecting land and livelihoods

[Text on screen] Pictures courtesy of WRI India

Landscape restoration, Sidhi District, Madhya Pradesh, India

Hari Prasad

Farmer, Sidhi District, Madhya Pradesh

[Closed captions translated to English] Our life is dependent on our land. If we do not have this land, it will become very difficult for us to maintain our lives.

[Text on screen] More than 700 million people in India depend on forests and agriculture for their sustenance

But land degradation and climate change are adversely impacting human lives

There are more than 300,000 hectares with potential for land restoration in Sidhi District

The Climate Solutions Partnership worked with the community to develop livelihoods for marginalised communities in rural areas

R Parasuram

Senior Fellow, WRI India

Former Chief Secretary, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh

[Closed captions translated to English] We need to understand what the villagers want and what will sustain their interest. There is no sustainable development unless the interest of the people who are going to benefit is also sustained.

Mujeebur Rehman Khan

District Collector, Sidhi, Madhya Pradesh

[Closed captions translated to English] The work that is evolving now is basically mobilising people to utilise their local resources, whether it's the forest, the availability of water or even land and how they can benefit from them.

[Text on screen] Since 2021, the programme has worked to restore a pilot landscape of 9,000 hectares

Created employment for 18,285 households

Revived 81 local women's self-help groups

Developed restoration interventions like water conservation and tree plantation in 517 hectares

(Data from December 2023)

Established a landscape restoration model that can be replicated throughout Sidhi District and more widely across the whole of Madhya Pradesh region