



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
Only IAS Academy by Grandson of "Perunthalsivam Kamarajar"

FAO – State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA) 2025 Report

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Released by: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations

Theme (2025): Impact of human-driven land degradation on agricultural productivity, food security, and ecosystem resilience.

Key Highlights

Land Degradation: Defined as the long-term decline in the land's ability to provide essential ecosystem services.

Causes:

Natural: Soil erosion, salinization.

Human-induced: Deforestation, overgrazing, unsustainable cropping and irrigation.

Major Findings:

Yield Loss: Around 1.7 billion people live in areas where crop yields are 10% lower due to land degradation.

Most Affected: Asia — due to high population and accumulated degradation.

Productivity Loss: Total Factor Productivity (TFP) growth has declined since 2000s, especially in the Global South.

Food Security Link: 47 million children under 5 suffering from stunting live in areas with major yield losses.

Ecosystem Impact: Degradation affects crops, livestock, forests, and biodiversity, disrupting climate patterns and ecosystem balance.

Significance for India

India is among the countries facing serious land degradation due to soil erosion, deforestation, and overuse of water.

Supports need for:

- o Sustainable land management and soil conservation,

- o Watershed restoration and climate-resilient farming,

- o Afforestation and agroforestry initiatives (e.g. National Mission for a Green India).

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