



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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GOAL OF THE MONTH – Goal 15: Life on Land

Where We Are

Forests, biodiversity and land are under growing pressure from human activity. As of 2024, forest loss continues at alarming rates, with over 10 million hectares disappearing annually. Only 15% of land globally is under protection, while desertification and soil degradation threaten the livelihoods of over 3.2 billion people. Biodiversity is declining, with one million species at risk of extinction. Achieving Goal 15 requires urgent restoration of degraded land, halting



“The healthier our ecosystems are, the healthier the planet – and its people. Restoring our damaged ecosystems will help to end poverty,

THE 17 GOALS



deforestation, and conserving biodiversity across ecosystems.

The Pact for the Future highlights the urgent need to reverse biodiversity loss and restore ecosystems as a cornerstone of sustainable development. It emphasizes the importance of strengthening multilateral efforts to protect natural habitats and ensure the fair use of natural resources.

combat climate change and prevent mass extinction."

– *António Guterres, UN Secretary-General (22 April 2025)*



SDG 15 in Numbers

- Soil degradation affects nearly one-third of the Earth's land area, impacting food security for billions.
- Only 15% of land is currently under protection, far from the 30% goal by 2030.
- More than 1 million species face extinction, many within decades, due to human activities.
- Over 12 million hectares of forest are lost every year, primarily due to agricultural expansion.

In Focus

15 May | Mid-year update of the World Economic Situation and Prospects Report



A sudden escalation of trade tensions has sent shockwaves through the global economy,

dampening growth prospects while fueling uncertainty and inducing financial market volatility. Trade-dependent economies face the greatest risks, as rising tariffs and evolving trade policies threaten to disrupt global supply chains, increase production costs, and delay critical investment decisions. Tariff-driven price pressures are adding to inflation risks, complicating monetary policymaking. At the same